

# MODERN DOGS

(Non-Sporting Division)

NEW EDITION.

RAWDON B. LEE.



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# MODERN DOGS

(Non-Sporting Division).

INCLUDING

TOY, PET, FANCY, AND LADIES' DOGS.







A  
HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION  
OF THE  
MODERN DOGS  
OF  
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND  
(NON-SPORTING DIVISION).

INCLUDING  
TOY, PET, FANCY, AND LADIES' DOGS.

*A NEW EDITION.*

BY  
RAWDON B. LEE.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS BY  
ARTHUR WARDLE AND R. H. MOORE.

LONDON :  
HORACE COX.  
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## PREFACE.

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ONLY a few changes, and these not very important, have taken place amongst the non-sporting dogs since the first edition of this volume was produced five years ago, but such as they are they have been carefully noted in the following pages, and additional illustrations have been inserted. The latter include photogravures of Toy Bulldogs and of three foreign dogs—a Pekinese spaniel, a Chihuahua, and a Mexican crested dog. It may be said that these are not British varieties; but, since specimens frequently appear at our shows, and are kept as pet dogs, any particulars concerning them may prove useful and interesting. This is my excuse for their introduction here.

In accordance with the wish of my publisher, the title of the present volume has been somewhat amplified, to bring into greater prominence Pet, Fancy, and Ladies' dogs generally, which are more

popular now than at any previous period of our history. It must not, however, be forgotten that the Toy Terriers appear in the volume of "MODERN DOGS" which is entirely devoted to the terrier family.

I hope the alterations in and additions to the illustrations in the artistic portion of the volume, as well as the new matter and revision of the old in the literary part of the book, will be as satisfactory to my readers as kindly reviewers and a generous public have led me to believe my former volumes have proved.

RAWDON B. LEE.

*Brixton, February, 1899.*

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## PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

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THE publication and success of my book last year on "SPORTING DOGS" has necessitated the production of another division dealing with the "NON-SPORTING" varieties, in which terriers are not included, they forming a volume of themselves. I have endeavoured to give a somewhat complete early history of the different breeds, and, at the same time, have brought the subject up to date.

As before, the drawings, although in most instances taken from living examples, are not intended to be merely counterparts of dogs of the day, but they must be taken as illustrative of the typical specimens they represent. I believe this departure from ordinary custom to be a useful one, as the portraits of individual dogs, whose prominence before the public is more or less ephemeral, cannot in the future be of so much interest as pictures of idealised animals are likely to be.

In cases where the specialist clubs have compiled and arranged descriptions of the dogs whose interests they guard, I have given the results of the deliberations of their members. I have likewise appended scales of points to satisfy those who, in the minority, still believe that the beauty or otherwise of a dog can be correctly gauged by a series of figures.

The illustrations by Arthur Wardle and R. H. Moore are, I consider, particularly satisfactory, as is the process by which they are reproduced.

My thanks I convey to all who have assisted me in providing subjects for the artists, and to others who have given valuable information, not to be obtained excepting from owners who have made individual varieties of the dog special studies.

To all who have assisted me I dedicate this work, as some slight return for their kindness and for the interest they have taken in its publication.

RAWDON B. LEE.

*Brixton, London, March, 1894.*

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## CHAPTER I.

### THE MASTIFF.

A SOMEWHAT interesting correspondence took place not long ago in the *Field* regarding that which some contributors called the "deterioration of the mastiff," implying by these words that the old English mastiff of the present day was not equal to what it had been, say, twenty-five years or so ago. Whether this is the case or not it would be difficult to determine from what was written by those engaged in the controversy, for, as is always the case with ordinary newspaper discussions, the general reader was about as wise at its termination as he was at the beginning. There is, however, no doubt that the modern mastiff breeder, in allowing a craze for huge heads and great skulls to get the better of him, has, as a rule, produced these exaggerations to the sacrifice of the body, loins, legs, and general symmetry of the animal.

This was, however, so marked about five years

ago that even those who had been the means of causing such retrogression noticed the error they had made, and expressed a desire to remedy their mistake. This, however, they have not succeeded in doing, and as I write in 1898 the old English mastiff seems to still be on the decadence. Few good specimens are now to be found, at any rate they do not appear at our shows, and the cow-hocks, crooked fore legs, and hollowed backs, still prevail, which render the ordinary gait of the mastiff an awkward rolling movement, more like that of an aged shorthorn going into the byre than that which ought to be possessed by a leading family of the canine race.

Some of our modern mastiffs of the Crown Prince strain would, I am afraid, have made but sorry protectors for an English warrior who lay grievously wounded on the field of Agincourt.

Although considerable diversity of opinion has existed, and will always exist, as to the origin of the mastiff, there is little doubt that it is the oldest variety of dog connected with Great Britain, and upon this most authorities appear to be agreed, though there are occasional admirers of the bulldog who would have us believe that that variety of the canine race was one of the original dogs of the British Isles. One writer says that the Molossus,

the original of the mastiff, was brought by the Celts in their migration from the shores of the Black Sea to Ireland about 600 B.C. History has told us that during the time of the Roman occupation of Britain, an officer was appointed with the title of Procurator Cynegii, whose business it was to obtain and transmit to Rome mastiffs that would prove useful as guards and, mayhap, in fighting in the arena either amongst themselves or with wild beasts. At about this period every two "villeins" were by law compelled to keep between them one mastiff dog, and the duties of the Procurator would, no doubt, be to collect the dogs, when fully grown, from these common people. Strabo tells us that the same mastiffs were used by the Gauls in times of war.

The Rev. M. B. Wynn, in his "History of the Mastiff," has been most praiseworthy in his researches as to the origin of his favourite dog, and I believe, has collected facts which ought to convince even the most sceptical of the identity of the mastiff with that large dog which the Romans found in this country, and which they afterwards made useful and amusing in their degrading sports of the arena. There are numerous illustrations on various pieces of ancient Roman-British pottery which can easily be identified as

representing a dog of the mastiff type, such a one as some nineteen hundred years or more ago might be found in this country, and utilised as guard to the flocks and herds, protecting them by their size, strength, and ferocity from the wolves that then overran the country.

There might at the same time be a smaller variety of the same dog, but of this there is no proof, and that the early mastiff was quite different from the early bulldog in leading particulars may be safely inferred, especially when, in support thereof, there are extant illustrations dating from the Roman period where the mastiff is attacking a horse, which he is represented as doing from behind, and not flying at the nose or front, which is the natural seizing place of the bulldog.

Mr. Wynn further says that in 1823, in a work entitled "Roman Antiquities, or the Durobrivæ of Antonicus Identified," there is a picture of a mastiff galloping after a horse, and, judging from the relative size of the two animals, which are both carefully and accurately delineated, such dogs must have been from 28 to 30 inches at the shoulder, heads broad and full, muzzle very short and broad, ears small and partially erect. Their necks and bodies are massive, limbs short and stout, sterns fine, and the *tout ensemble* that of long-bodied, muscular,

heavy mastiffs The same writer proceeds to say that such instances are proof of what the mastiff was, say between A.D. 100 and 150, which would be about the time the vessels were made upon which the figures were represented, and from which the engravings were taken. "These," the author of the "History of the Mastiff" proceeds to say, "are the best drawn and most reliable evidences I have met with, and it would be ridiculous to class such dogs as bulldogs, with their manner of attack and large size; yet their broad skulls and short muzzles show their close affinity to the British bulldog."

There are other illustrations of large dogs extant taken from ancient pottery, and in some of them the ears of the animals are shown as cut, the latter no doubt done to prevent the aural appendages being torn, either when the dogs were fighting with each other, or with some wolf, or larger animal.

However, it would occupy too much space were I to enter fully into the origin of the mastiff and describe him seriatim from the earliest days to the present time. He was early known as the Alaun or Alan, the Molossus, and later according to some authorities, as the Bulldog, but I should be inclined to believe—nay, do in reality believe—that our modern mastiff, as he appears on the show bench to-day, is very far removed from what he

was when Julius Cæsar first landed on our shores, and although Mr. Wynn, Mr. H. D. Kingdon, and others have endeavoured to trace the breeding of these favourite dogs for many years back, their labours have not had a successful result. A dog's pedigree for a hundred years, excepting, maybe, in a foxhound or greyhound, is not to be compiled with any degree of exactitude. Still there has been in this country, from earliest records to the present time, a breed of dog that has done duty as the mastiff, and so well has he performed his part that he may be well called the most historical dog of the day.

By the Romans and some others he was debased by the purposes to which he was put, for I do not believe he was ever intended as a hunting dog, or for the purpose of fighting with much more powerful beasts than himself. It has been said that King James I. loosed a powerful mastiff against a lion, to the discomfiture of the former, and a kennel companion met a like fate. But a third dog did so much better, worsting his antagonist, that the King said, "He that had fought the king of beasts should never fight a meaner creature," and forthwith this good "mastive" became a pensioner on the royal bounty. This is said to have happened in 1604, and about sixteen years later the same



monarch prohibited bear-baiting on a Sunday. At this time it was the custom to crop the ears of most of the mastiffs, and in some cases their sterns were shortened likewise.

As I have already hinted, the mastiff was not originally a fighting dog; he was used as a watch and guard, and as such had special legislation given him so far back as the reign of Henry III., when the obnoxious Forest Laws were still in operation. At that time and ever since William the Conqueror had appeared on the scene, no ordinary individual was allowed to keep a dog within the precincts of the Forests, though a special provision was made for mastiffs kept by farmers and substantial freeholders dwelling therein; indeed, no other dog than a mastiff was allowed to be kept within these precincts. They might keep such dogs for the protection of their houses and stock, provided that they had been expeditated according to law. This iniquitous proceeding was carried out by cutting off the claws of the fore feet close to the skin. The operation was performed by "sitting one of the fore feet upon a piece of wood eight inches thick and a foot square, and with a mallet, setting a chisel of two inches broad upon the three claws of his fore feet, and at one blow cutting them clean off. And this expeditating (by some called

hambling or lawing of dogs) ought to be looked after by the caretaker of the forest every third year."

Dr. Caius, so well known and so often quoted by writers on canine matters, must not be omitted here, as he flourished about 1550, when, although little was said about this dog, it was more valued and thought of during his period than it had been earlier. He says: "The mastiff or ban dog is vast, huge, stubborn, ugly, and eagre, of a heavy and burdensome body, and therefore but of little swiftness, terrible and frightful to behold, and more fierce and fell than any Arcadian cur, notwithstanding they are said to have their generation from the valiant lion. They are called Villatica, because they are appointed to watch and keep out-of-the-way farm places. . . . They are serviceable against the fox and badger, to drive wild and tame swine out of meadows, &c., and to bait and take the bull by the ear when occasion requireth. . . . For it is a kind of dog capable of courage violent and valiant, striking fear into the hearts of man, and standing in fear of no man, and no weapon will make him shrink or abridge his boldness."

Caius goes on to remark that "these dogs are trained to bait the bear and other cruel beasts



without any collar to defend their throats, and oftentimes they train them up in fighting and wrestling a man who, having for a safeguard either a pikestaff, a club, or a sword, and by using them to such exercises as these, the dogs become more sturdy and strong." Here the duties of the mastiff appear to have been of a varied character, if not altogether a pleasant one, and it would be a dog to be avoided by the general public.

Conrad Heresbach, of Cleves on the Rhine, who flourished, as the school books say, about the middle of the sixteenth century, he being born in 1509 and dying in 1576, in his book of Husbandry, translated into English by Barnaby Goodge, calls the mastiff "the ban dog for the house. Such a one should have a large and mighty body, a great and shrill voice, that both with his barking he may discover and with his sight dismay the thief; yea, not being seen, with the horror of his voice put him to flight. His stature must neither be too long nor too short, but well set; his head great, his eyes sharp and fiery, either brown or grey; his lippes blackish, neither turning up nor hanging too much down; his mouth black and wide; his neather jaw fat, and coming out on either side of it a fang appearing more outward than his other teeth; his upper teeth, even with his neather, not hanging too

much over, sharp and hidden with his lips; his countenance like a lion; his breast great and shag-haired; his shoulders broad, his legs big, his tail short, his feet very great. His disposition must be neither too gentle nor too curt, that he must neither fawn upon a thief nor flee upon his friends; very waking, no gadder abroad nor lavish of his mouth, barking without cause; neither make it any matter though he be not swift, for he is but to fight at home, and to give warning to the enemy."

Whether some of our modern breeders have endeavoured to produce an animal similar to that described by Conrad Heresbach one cannot tell, but from the "very great feet" often seen nowadays, and the decided slowness in pace, it might be thought a return to the dogs as described in the middle of the seventeenth century had been sought to be brought about. Certainly I have seen prize winning modern mastiffs that would, from sheer inability, not be "gadders abroad."

To come to modern times a huge leap of over many centuries must be made, but before actually entering upon a description of the race as it is at present, an omission would be caused were the Lyme Hall mastiffs to be omitted. It has been said that at the seat of the Leghs at Lyme Hall, in Cheshire, a strain of mastiffs has been kept

intact for many years. This is, however, not the case. On a recent visit to the ancient residence I found but about seven mastiffs present, and these were of a very inferior character in every way. Without distinctive feature, there was one dark fawn dog, others light fawn with black muzzles, and an animal that had been obtained to improve the strain that would have been best relegated to the tan yard. I was sorry to come to the conclusion that the Lyme Hall mastiff, with its historical traditions, was become a thing of the past, its place being usurped by inferior specimens not good enough to obtain a prize at any of our smallest dog shows. For the sake of his ancient repute it would have been better had the mastiff of the Leghs been allowed to entirely disappear, like the wild cattle which not many years ago grazed in the adjoining park, than to degenerate into the poor creatures one saw in the kennels.

Some twenty-five years or so since, my friend Mr. H. D. Kingdon did his best to resuscitate and give prominence to the Lyme Hall strain, but his energy was entirely thrown away, and the few dogs he did bring forward were small and poor creatures in comparison with the superb specimens that about that time were emanating from other kennels. About half a century ago there was a turning point

in the history of the mastiff, which the succeeding establishment of dog shows facilitated.

Is the story of the origin of the Lyme Hall mastiff too stale to be reproduced here? On St. Crispin's day, October 25th, 1415, the battle of Agincourt was fought, and the English had a decisive victory over their Gallic neighbours. Sir Peers Legh, of Lyme Hall, fighting for the victors, lay wounded on the field, and when found by his comrades he was guarded by a magnificent mastiff bitch, who did not leave her master until he died of his wounds in Paris, whither he had been removed. The bitch pupped shortly afterwards, but this did not prevent the warrior's family making arrangements for the conveyance of the knight's protector and her family to Lyme Hall, whither the corpse was taken for subsequent interment in the private vault of the Legh's, within the walls of Macclesfield Parish Church. From these puppies there sprung what was once supposed to be a pure strain of mastiffs. But history is silent about even the parent bitch herself, although it has been stated positively that the Lyme Hall strain was descended from dogs born generations before Agincourt was won. I do not think that anyone who wishes to improve his strain of mastiffs to-day would fly to the Lyme Hall Kennels for the purpose.

At the time of my visit, there was a very fine painting by Nettleship, about 1876, of a mastiff, and a right good dog too, evidently quite as good as Miss Aglionby's Turk, and some others that have had more to do with the foundation of our present strain than some people would imagine.

The Duke of Devonshire had an old strain of mastiffs at Chatsworth, but this has been lost, and so have those that were once known at Elvaston Castle, near Derby, in the family of the Galtons at Hadzor Hall, Worcester. There had been a special strain at the Duke of Sutherland's, at Trentham, and the author of the "*History of the Mastiff*" mentions strains kept by Colonel Wilson Patten, at Bold Hall, which had been at this seat since its occupation by the Honourable Peter Bold; and later by Mr. John Crabtree, of the Kirklees Park, near Halifax. The latter was head gamekeeper to the Armitage family, and he, about 1820, came into the possession of a brindled mastiff bitch, which he found caught in one of his traps for vermin that had been set in the park. From this bitch, and by judicious crossing, he obtained a strain of dogs highly spoken of by Mr. Wynn, which, it seems, Mr. F. Crabtree used principally as assistants to himself and his under-strappers in the apprehension of poachers.

Mr. J. W. Thompson, another Yorkshireman, about 1830 and later, gave considerable attention to the breeding of mastiffs, but to Mr. H. V. Lukey, of Morden, Kent, must modern admirers of the mastiff turn to find the man who has done most to improve or to develop the breed. His first mastiff came into his possession about 1835, a brindled bitch, with cropped ears and docked tail, said to be an Alpine mastiff from the kennels of the Duke of Devonshire. This seems to be something of an anomaly, though vouched for both by the late Mr. Lukey and by Mr. Wynn, and the latter tells us the ears of the Alpine mastiffs were cut to prevent them becoming frost bitten. Personally, I should think they would be far more likely to suffer from the attacks of frost-bite when cruelly cut than if left intact. However, this by the way.

The bitch in question was obtained from a dealer named White, at Knightsbridge, the predecessor of the late Bill George, of such great celebrity as a dog dealer, and who was father to the present Alfred George, of Kensal Town, equally well-known in canine matters. This bitch mated to a black dog belonging to the Marquis of Hertford, produced two puppies, one of which died. The other, a bitch, was in time put to another so-called



“Alpine mastiff,” and so came Mr. Lukey’s and subsequent modern strains.

It would seem strange that, with all the pride Englishmen have had in their dogs and in the ancient reputation they have borne, that of our modern mastiff so much is due to an animal that was known as the Alpine mastiff, and which in reality cannot have been more or less than a smooth-coated St. Bernard. One writer has written that the black dog of Lord Hertford’s was a Thibet mastiff. Most likely he was a very dark coloured brindled dog of our English strain, for certainly none of Mr. Lukey’s dogs ever showed the hound type and bloodhound expression which would have been obtained from a cross with a Thibetan dog; and if it had been used, the evil would have kept cropping up generation after generation.

Writing in “Dogs of the British Isles,” Captain Garnier came into prominence as a mastiff breeder, and his communication is worth reproduction here in part. He says:

About this time (1847) I bought of Bill George a pair of mastiffs, whose produce, by good luck, afterwards turned out some of the finest specimens of the breed I ever saw. The dog Adam was one of a pair of Lyme Hall mastiffs, bought by Bill George at Tattersall’s. He was a different stamp of dog to the present Lyme breed. He stood  $30\frac{1}{2}$  in. at the shoulder, with length of body and good muscular shoulders and loins, but was

just slightly deficient in depth of body and breadth of forehead ; and, from the peculiar forward lay of his small ears, and from his produce, I have since suspected a remote dash of boarhound in him. The bitch was obtained by Bill George from a dealer in Leadenhall Market. Nothing was known of her pedigree, but I am as convinced of its purity as I am doubtful of that of the dog. There was nothing striking about her. She was old, her shoulders a trifle flat, and she had a grey muzzle, but withal stood 29in. at the shoulder, had a broad round head, good loin, and deep, lengthy frame. From crossing these dogs with various strains I was easily able to analyse their produce, and I found in them two distinct types—one due to the dog, very tall, but a little short in the body and high on the leg, while their heads were slightly deficient in breadth; the other due to the bitch, equally tall, but deep, lengthy, and muscular, with broad massive heads and muzzles. Some of these latter stood 33in. at the shoulder, and by the time they were two years old weighed upwards of 190lb. They had invariably a fifth toe on each hind leg, which toe was quite distinct from a dew-claw, and formed an integral portion of their feet. By bad management, I was only able to bring a somewhat indifferent specimen with me on my return to England from America—a badly reared animal, who nevertheless stood 32in. at the shoulder, and weighed 170lb. This dog Lion was the sire of Governor and Harold, by Mr. Lukey's bitch Countess, and so certain was I of the vast size of the breed in him that I stated beforehand, much to Mr. Lukey's incredulity, that the produce would be dogs standing 33in. at the shoulder—the result being that both Governor and his brother Harold were fully that height. In choosing the whelps, Mr. Lukey retained for himself the best marked one, an animal that took after the lighter of the two strains that existed in the sire ; for Grosvenor, grand dog and perfect mastiff as he was, compared to most others of the breed, was nevertheless shorter in the body, higher on the leg, and with less muscular development than Harold ; while his head, large as it was, barely measured as much round as did his brother's. I.



who went by the development of the fifth toe (in this case only a dew-claw), chose Harold, a dog which combined all the best points, except colour, of both strains, and was a very perfect reproduction on a larger scale of his dam Countess. This dog was the finest male specimen of the breed I have met with. His breast at ten months old, standing up, measured 13in. across, with a girth of 41in., and he weighed in moderate condition 140lb., and at twelve months old 160lb., while at 13½ months old Governor only weighed in excellent condition 150lb., with a girth of 40in.; and inasmuch as Governor eventually weighed 180lb. or even more, the size to which Harold probably attained must have been very great. His head also in size and shape promised to be perfect.

I will mention three other dogs. The first, Lord Waldegrave's Turk, better known as "Couchez," was the foundation of Mr. Lukey's breed. This dog has frequently been described to me by Bill George and Mr. Lukey, and I have a painting of his head at the present moment. He stood about 29½in. or 30in. at the shoulder, with great length and muscular development, and, although he was never anything but thin, weighed about 130lb. Muzzle broad and heavy, with deep flews; skin over the eyes and about the neck very loose; colour red, with very black muzzle. He was a most savage animal; was fought several times with other animals, and was invariably victorious. The second was a tailless brindled bitch, bought by Mr. Lukey from George White, of Knightsbridge. She was a very large massively built animal, standing 30in. at the shoulder. Her produce with Couchez were remarkably fine. "Long-bodied, big-limbed, heavy-headed bitches. They *were* mastiffs Mr. Lukey had in those days!" is Bill George's eulogium of them. This bitch was bred by the Duke of Devonshire, and must therefore have been one of the Chatsworth breed. The third animal, L'Ami, was a brindled dog of such vast size and weight that he was taken about and shown in England, in the year 1829, the price of admission being one shilling. Of the head of this dog also I have a drawing, and

it shows him to be very full and round above the eyes, with a broad heavy muzzle and remarkably deep flews, the ears being cropped close. This dog, with the exception of rather heavy flews, answered exactly to the type of Vandyke's mastiff.

Now, the point to which I wish to draw attention is, that both Couchez and L'Ami came direct from the Convent of Mount St. Bernard. The mighty dogs which used to be kept at Chatsworth (and one of which stood 34in. at the shoulder) were pure Alpine mastiffs, as also were the two magnificent animals I have mentioned as having seen at Bill George's kennels some sixteen years ago; while others that I frequently used to meet with at that time were of the same character. These, one and all, presented the same type—a strong proof of their purity—and that type was in all respects the same as the old English mastiff portrayed by Vandyke. The same may be said of the dogs in Landseer's picture of Alpine mastiffs, which have all the points of the true mastiffs, although their tails, as might be expected from the cold climate, are hairier than they should be. At that time one used to meet with good English mastiffs also, but they were few compared to the number of half-bred animals that went by that name; and, with the exception of Mr. Lukey's breed, the good ones have nearly all come from Lancashire, Cheshire, and the North of England generally, where some years ago they were still in considerable request for guarding the large bleaching grounds. Between these and the Alpine dogs I never could discover the slightest difference except in size—the best English dogs varying from 29in. to 33in. at the shoulder, while the Alpine male specimens were seldom under 32in.

Now, it is ridiculous to suppose that the dogs that used to be found at the convent, and in a few of the Swiss valleys, were a breed indigenous to that small part of the continent of Europe; and yet it was there only that the breed existed. When, therefore, we find the same animal common in England two hundred years ago, and still to be met with in considerable numbers, though more rarely than formerly, it is only reasonable to conclude that

the English and Mount St. Bernard mastiffs are identical breeds, and that the monks, requiring large, powerful, generous, and high-couraged animals for their benevolent purposes, selected the old English dog in preference to all other breeds. It is very easy to understand that, with the disuse of the breed for combating wild animals, they should have been allowed to die out and degenerate in England; and it is equally easy to understand that the mastiffs kept at the Convent of St. Bernard for a particular purpose, requiring strength and courage, should have been kept up, and thus that the best specimens of the breed in modern times have come from there.

The above opinion of Colonel Garnier's, written more than a quarter of a century ago, will scarcely find favour now. There is not the slightest similarity between the smooth St. Bernard and the mastiff, and our English bred specimens of the former are, as a rule, bigger and heavier than any animals that have been imported. Nor can I see any resemblance, excepting, perhaps, in size, between Landseer's Alpine mastiffs, painted in the early part of that great artist's career, and our own English mastiff. No doubt crosses with some foreign bred dogs were introduced sixty years ago, and even more recently, but at that time canine education was not far advanced, and a dog with a foreign name would bring more money in the market than one that bore a national nomenclature. On this account I fancy pedigrees became somewhat mixed, and, reading all that has been written by Colonel

Garnier and others, it would be difficult to believe in the British mastiff as little more than a mongrel rather than as a direct descendant of all that is old in our English dogs.

We hear of the bulldog cross and the blood-hound cross; but when were they introduced, and by whom? These are important questions, which have not hitherto been answered. There is no doubt that, amongst modern mastiffs, specimens frequently occur that show in the round, broad skull, sunken eyes, and, shall I say, the undershot jaw, a decided leaning to the bulldog in expression. Some admirers of the breed say the mastiff ought to be undershot, and that he was so originally. A perfect mastiff ought to be as level in his teeth as a terrier. He should have a distinctive character of his own, not of the bulldog as above described, nor of the hound with a long square face, with loose skin under his throat, and deeply pendulous dewlaps.

Such dogs as I have in my mind bore none of these defects. They looked mastiffs pure and simple, and were such from the end of their noses to the tips of their tails. As my paragon I always took that grand dog Turk, who was bred by the late Miss Aglionby at Esthwaite Hall, near Hawkshead, one of the Lancashire portions of the English

Lake district. This fine dog, born in 1865, was one of an extraordinary litter by Mr. E. Field's King from the breeder's Hilda, the single whelping including Wolf, which his fair owner considered the best of the lot, Knight Templar, Emperor, and Turk. Thus there were four dogs in the same litter the like of which could scarcely be bred in twenty litters to-day. How these dogs won in classes that were far stronger then than now, and for years after likewise, is a matter of history. In 1871 sixty-nine mastiffs were benched at one of the Crystal Palace shows, and at Birmingham the same year there were twenty-nine competitors in the open dog class. There were men at that time who bred their dogs with care, and they had not commenced to breed for exaggerated heads to the sacrifice of qualities equally or more important.

Earlier than the Turk epoch, Mr. E. Hanbury, from Wiltshire, was showing some good dogs, and not many years later Mr. E. Nichols, of South Kensington, who survives, and takes as much interest in them as ever, would not look at any dog that possessed the round bull-headed skull introduced a little later. Bill George's Tiger, whose name is found in the pedigrees of most modern mastiffs, was no great wonder in the way of size, but his head was correctly shaped, and if he was



underhung at all it was very little. I never saw the dog myself, but whilst one authority says Tiger's lower jaw protruded, I am told that this was not the case. Mr. Lukey's Governor was not undershot, but no doubt some of the early dogs were so deformed, still with this defect they had not the additional ones of crooked and too twisted hocks, so prevalent as I write in 1898.

Other fine dogs that were not underhung were Mr. C. Bathurst's Peveril, Mr. Hanbury's Rajah, Sir T. Fermor Hesketh's Nero, Mr. Ralph Yeardsley's Anlaf, a son of Mr. M. B. Wynn's Monarch, and later Mr. Dickenson's Lion and Mrs. Rawlinson's Hector, with many others that could be mentioned, and with so many good dogs to breed from, the wonder is that the defects alluded to have not died out rather than become intensified. There is no getting away from the fact that the more any of the modern mastiffs resemble the bulldog in head, the greater probability that they resemble him in his walk—or waddle rather—a gait certainly quite out of place in a typical mastiff.

To my idea, that dog Crown Prince, who was bred by Mr. Woolmore in 1880, has much to answer for, so far as the present defects in the mastiff are concerned. He was a peculiarly coloured fawn dog,

known to fanciers as "Dudley-faced"—that is, his nose was red, his eyes had a similar inclination, and a yellow redness pervaded his face and muzzle, which to me was always most repellant. Unfortunately, his evil markings notwithstanding, this dog attracted the notice of the judges, and by them was awarded the highest honours attainable, because they said his head was so extraordinarily good in its various developments. It was exaggerated all over and so was not a good head. He was both "lippy" and "jowly," his skull was very wide, still proportionate with his muzzle, and he was but little undershot.

However, he, winning prizes, was used very much at stud, and continued, with that perverseness so marked in many instances, to transmit his very defects to his progeny, and any good points he had—well, he kept them to himself. Crown Prince was a straight-hocked dog, and a very moderate mover, nor were his fore-legs and feet nearly so good as they might have been. If Mr. Woolmore gave us Crown Prince, he also had the honour of being the breeder of Peter Piper, a brindled dog of great quality and excellence and doubtless the very best dog of his race in this country at the present time. He is now the property of Mr. J. Royle, of Manchester, was born in March, 1893, and in his

present owner's hands has never been beaten. Peter Piper is by Tom Bowling—Selina, and through Jubilee Beauty, his grand-dam, who was by Victor Hugo, goes back to Mark Beaufoy's Beau, Hanbury's Rajah and his Queen, the latter being by Lindoe's David, who was by Weller's Wallace.

The following communication is from one of the leading exhibitors and breeders of mastiffs at the present day, and the opinions expressed therein so thoroughly coincide with my own, that I have not the slightest hesitation in publishing it, however it may grate on the feelings of those who during recent years have tried to produce an abnormal head at the expense of good limbs, lengthy body, and other important attributes :

“ There can be little doubt that with the advent of Crown Prince came a new era in the history of the mastiff. In him we had a dog of a very striking personality, not by any means confined to his peculiar and ugly colour. Crown Prince was probably a more compact, shorter-bodied, shorter-faced, and more massive-headed mastiff than almost any dog of the race that had preceded him. The novelty of his appearance, it is to be presumed, caused an enormous demand for his services at stud, and it is only to be regretted that mastiff



breeders at that time should have so neglected nearly every other dog. Thus we are now placed in the unenviable position of being absolutely compelled to inbreed to an alarming extent or to introduce some other strain with which to invigorate our modern blood. That Crown Prince and Beau together are responsible for the present fashionable type of head is evident, but it is to be feared the former also gave us a lighter eye and a shorter body, as well as those disfiguring straight hocks, which were so prevalent—and are still too often met with—a few years ago. The loss of density or blackness of face markings, too, may also be traced to him.

“But the faults we got from Crown Prince were unquestionably emphasised by the rush upon the dog, to the neglect of almost all others; and had his services been sought a little less exclusively, we might not now have to regret many of the faults of our present dogs—inbreeding having developed them—or that the means of breeding at all are so difficult.

“In a great number of cases where Crown Prince was probably used to suitable bitches, he proved himself the progenitor of some of our very best mastiffs—best, not only because of successes on the show bench, but because they exhibited his

good qualities with few of his bad ones. This was strikingly shown in the case of Dr. Turner's *The Lady Isabel*, in Mr. T. W. Allen's *Montgomery*, in the late Capt. J. L. Piddocke's *Toozie*, and others.

"One cannot pick up a catalogue of even four or five years ago without noticing how the number of entries in the mastiff classes have fallen off. That this is in any way due to decadence in the mastiff's popularity I do not for a moment believe. Even in so short a period dog shows have enormously increased in number, with the result that exhibitors can now pick their shows, with the almost inevitable result that the classes do not fill so well, although the total number of mastiffs exhibited has possibly decreased but very little. Then the general body of owners still required education in the requisite points, and, pending this, did not hesitate to show their dogs, adding, if not to the quality, to the quantity, and the 'tail' of the classes.

"Latterly, whether our mastiffs, as a breed, be better or worse than in the days of Lukey and his contemporaries, the general type has become more uniform, and in consequence owners of those dogs which would appear to be a mastiff only in colour, have learnt the futility of showing them.

"It is, perhaps, not too much to say that the

‘Description of the Mastiff,’ issued by the Old English Mastiff Club, and given on another page, has, as a description of a perfect dog, never been approached, and if it were but possible now to produce a mastiff as a living model of the description, we should be able to point to it as deserving of admiration from the fancier, the artist, and from him who keeps his mastiff as companion and friend.

“But there is one point which has no place in the required show points of the mastiff. Still it is, in all dogs, and more especially in a large, powerful creature, of fundamental importance. It is the temper. Now, so long as the owner remains merely the exhibitor, keeping a dog as a machine with which to win prizes, bestowing no pains upon the education of his puppies, or, at most, leaving any tuition in the hands of an indifferent kennelman, so surely will the inherent courage, docility, and beauty of temper of the mastiff, gradually become mere history of the past.

“Dog shows unquestionably tend to develop excitability, and if this be fomented by neglect and carelessness at home, we must not wonder if the would-be owner of a mastiff requires some further proof of the trustworthiness of the breed than a discussion in the public prints, no matter how much in favour of the dog it may be.

“ But, two show-points have some bearing on the question of temper; not that either is any actual indication as to what it may be, although they certainly give an impression with regard to it. The first is the colour of the eye. Is it possible to regard the dog owning a pair of light eyes, glaring out from a black or dark face, without feeling considerable doubt of his amiability? I think not. The second point is the undershot jaw. While this gives an awe-inspiring and imposing character to the head, it destroys all benignity of expression, even to a greater extent than the light eye, and, necessary as I consider the extreme power of a mastiff's under-jaw to be, its strength should lie in its width and depth rather than in its elongation to any great extent beyond the upper jaw. We have seen this extreme development of under-jaw very evident in Mr. T. W. Allen's Montgomery, Mr. W. K. Taunton's Beaufort, the late Capt. Piddocke's Tootie and Jubilee Beauty, Ogilvie and Lord Clive, and in many others, and I venture to think all these extremely good headed dogs would have been even better had they been a little less underhung. It is given in the ‘Description of the Mastiff,’ that the muzzle is to be blunt, and at a right angle with the upper line of the face; an impossibility if one jaw is to protrude so far beyond the other.

“When good qualities are exaggerated—for we can have too much of a good thing—or become altogether ignored, it is necessary to make allusion thereto. Mere show points are for the consideration of the fancier alone, perhaps, but even he should insist upon soundness of limb and development of those parts indicative of power, activity, and a good constitution. Many of our mastiffs are not all they should be in forelegs and feet, many are narrow-breasted and contracted in the ribs, evidence of a bad constitution, and many more have weak stifles, weak hocks, and thighs almost devoid of muscle.

“The actual length of the face is of very small importance in comparison with its strength, *i.e.*, breadth, depth and bluntness, and it is in respect of this strength present-day breeders assert that the mastiffs of some twenty years ago failed. In the effort to remedy this, the foreface has become shortened, for I cannot believe that we have our present type as the outcome of a sole desire to shorten, merely for the sake of shortening, a long muzzle which was already perfect in other respects.

“Since the time of Crown Prince we have had many splendid mastiffs, but for good all-round merit there has been nothing to excel Beaufort and Minting of the one sex, or Cambrian Princess and

Mr. C. C. Rice's Frigga Secunda of the other. Possessing, as he did, not the smallest drop of Crown Prince's blood, it was to be regretted when Minting left this country for America, and even his brother, Charley Wood, who, though neither so good nor so famous, would have proved of immense service to breeders, had he been left us.

"Dr. Sidney Turner's, afterwards the Rev. H. K. van Doorne's, Orlando, if not by any means the most perfect of Crown Prince's progeny, was perhaps the most conspicuous, and he has fortunately given us many good mastiffs with a large share of their sire's good points, and with but little sign of his deplorable hind quarters. The best of these were Mr. W. K. Taunton's Griselda and Mr. C. C. Rice's Frigga, whilst others who did, or did not, excel in head points, conclusively proved Orlando to have been capable of begetting excellent limbs on his stock, a case in point being Mrs. Lee's Holda. Orlando's brother, a later litter, and Mr. W. K. Taunton's Hotspur will also be remembered as the sire of many winners, notably Constable and Carshalton Prince.

"Of late years, Beaufort stands out as the sire of dogs of good all-round excellence. Among the first of his stock was Wodan, so remarkable for his extreme shortness of face and great length of body ;



then we know Beaufort as sire of Lord Stafford, Sir Stafford, Lady Florida, Seabreeze, Isolde, Ayrshire, and others, as well as of many in the United States, such as Ilford, Lady Coleus, Lady Phyllis, Beaufort's Black Prince, &c., the latter a fawn dog brought over to this country by Mr. Stanley Higgs in 1896. Considerable interest was caused when this dog met at the Agricultural Hall show the same year our recognised champion Peter Piper. Both were taken into the ring in excellent condition, and after careful scrutiny the judge, Mr. H. G. Woolmore placed Peter Piper first. These were without doubt the two best mastiff dogs we have had together for many years, and the death of Black Prince a few months later was a matter all deplored, as it is that since then nothing to equal either has been produced.

"A noteworthy dog was the late Mr. R. Cook's Ilford Chancellor, very noticeable for an extraordinary development of dew-lap, a disfigurement which probably did more to bring about his defeats by Beaufort than anything else. Mr. E. Nichols' Victor Hugo, another dog of great excellence, and pretty much free from most of the modern bad qualities, is illustrated in 'Dogs of the British Isles.' He took a high position, without ever attaining the title of 'Champion,' and from him we get Jubilee Beauty, Mr. Z. Walker's Stentor, and, as already

mentioned, our acknowledged champion of 1898, Peter Piper, contains his blood.. The Rev H. K. E. van Doorne's Jack Thyr, another mastiff who gained a high reputation on the show bench, though a terribly bad mover when out at exercise, has, however, given us nothing better than Ilford County Member and Don Juan II. The career of the last-named was very short, and the name of Sir Stafford will probably be remembered more as the sire of Frigga Secunda and Cardinal Beaufort than as a show dog. Nor must Ogilvie be forgotten, for he was one of the best-brindled mastiffs ever exhibited, and as a sire he has already made his mark, so desirable a specimen of the race as Brampton Beauty owing paternity to him. And a word must be said, too, for Montgomery, the sire of the good headed but bad limbed Kaiser Frederic, Duke Rollo, and Mr. W. Norman Higgs' admirable bitch Coombe Baroness. But during the past half-dozen years there has been a lull in the production of mastiffs of marked excellence, the breeding seasons having been disastrous in the extreme.

" Since the days when Crown Prince, Cambrian Princess, H.M. King Canute and Maximillian, and, later, Peter Piper, made Mr. H. G. Woolmore's name as a breeder, Dr. J. Sidney Turner, Mr. W. K.



Taunton, the Rev. H. K. E. van Doorne, the late Capt. Piddocke, the late Mr. Cook, Mr. J. Royle, Mr. A. J. Thorpe, and Mr. W. N. Higgs have been the most successful exhibitors, although others, including Mr. A. Andrews of Stafford, have done much in producing admirable specimens, nor must the name of Mr. J. Hutching, of Exeter, be omitted. But perhaps we shall have to look to the Bywater Kennels, 82, Hatton Garden, London, which at present holds the leading mastiffs in the kingdom for any improvement in the variety. But, on the other hand, such old fanciers as Mr. E. Nichols and Mr. Mark Beaufoy, the breeder of Beau, appear to have retired and their places are yet to be filled. The only really good new dog introduced of late has been Mr. A. J. Thorpe's Marksman, who has done considerable winning, and Elfrida, Elgiva, Hidalgo, Invicta, Prince Hampton, and Baron Hotspur may be favourably mentioned.

It is a strange fact that at a dog show held at Earls Court in December, 1897, although over 1200 dogs were benched not a single mastiff appeared, and at a show held at Amsterdam in the spring of 1898 there was a better array of mastiffs than was found at our English Kennel Club's exhibition a few months earlier. Can more be said as to the decadence of the breed in its native country.

Allusion has already been made to certain excellent mastiffs owners have had in the United States, and perhaps as good a kennel as any to be found out of Great Britain was that of Herr Dobbelmann, of Rotterdam, who, besides officiating here as judge, has on other occasions competed successfully with his dogs at our leading shows. He gave up keeping mastiffs in 1898.

Since its foundation in 1883, the Old English Mastiff Club has never flagged in its efforts to repopularise its favourite dog, but its endeavours have not been appreciated. In addition to its other work, and the money prizes it offers at shows, there is a Challenge Cup for each sex for competition among its members in England, and two others for competition in America. Nor are breeders, as distinct from exhibitors, forgotten, there being Challenge Prizes for the breeders winning them a certain number of times with dogs under two years of age. There is also a Challenge Cup for brindle mastiffs, thus there is additional inducement to produce mastiffs of this colour.

The following are the description and points drawn up by the Mastiff Club, and alluded to earlier on.

*“General Character and Symmetry (Value 10).*  
—Large, massive, powerful, symmetrical, and well-knit frame. A combination of grandeur and good nature, courage, and docility.

*“General Description of Head.*—In general outline, giving a square appearance when viewed from any point. Breadth greatly to be desired, and should be in ratio to length of the whole head and face as 2 to 3.

*“General Description of Body* (Height and Substance) Value 10.—Massive, broad, deep, long, powerfully built, on legs wide apart and squarely set. Muscles sharply defined, Size a great desideratum, if combined with quality. Height and substance important if both points are proportionately combined.

*“Skull* (Value 12).—Broad between the ears, forehead flat, but wrinkled when attention is excited. Brows (superciliary ridges) slightly raised. Muscles of the temples and cheeks (temporal and masseter) well developed. Arch across the skull of a rounded, flattened curve, with a depression up the centre of the forehead from the medium line between the eyes, to half way up the sagittal suture.

*“Face or Muzzle* (Value 18).—Short, broad under the eyes, and keeping nearly parallel in width to the end of the nose; truncated, *i.e.*, blunt and cut off square, thus forming a right angle with the upper line of the face, of great depth from the point of the nose to under jaw. Under-jaw broad to the end; canine teeth healthy, powerful, and wide

apart; incisors level, or the lower projecting beyond the upper, but never sufficiently so as to become visible when the mouth is closed. Nose broad, with widely spreading nostrils when viewed from the front; flat (not pointed nor turned up) in profile. Lips diverging at obtuse angles with the septum, and slightly pendulous, so as to show a square profile. Length of muzzle to whole head and face as 1 to 3. Circumference of muzzle (measured midway between the eyes and nose) to that of the head (measured before the ears) as 3 to 5.

“*Ears* (Value 4).—Small, thin to the touch, wide apart, set on at the highest points of the sides of the skull, so as to continue the outline across the summit, and lying flat and close to the cheeks when in repose.

“*Eyes* (Value 6).—Small, wide apart, divided by at least the space of two eyes. The stop between the eyes well marked, but not too abrupt. Colour hazel-brown, the darker the better, showing no haw.

“*Chest and Ribs* (Value 8).—Neck, slightly arched, moderately long, very muscular, and measuring in circumference about one or two inches less than the skull before the ears. Chest, wide, deep, and well let down between the fore-legs. Ribs arched and well rounded. False ribs deep

and well set back to the hips. Girth should be one-third more than the height at the shoulder. Shoulder and Arm, slightly sloping, heavy and muscular.

*"Fore Legs and Feet (Value 6).—*Legs straight, strong, and set wide apart; bones very large. Elbows square. Pasterns upright. Feet large and round. Toes well arched up. Nails black.

*"Back, Loins and Flanks (Value 8).—*Back and loins wide and muscular; flat and very wide in a bitch, slightly arched in a dog. Great depth of flanks.

*"Hind Legs and Feet (Value 10).—*Hind-quarters broad, wide and muscular, with well developed second thighs, hocks bent, wide apart, and quite squarely set when standing or walking. Feet round.

*"Tail (Value 3).—*Put on high up, and reaching to the hocks, or a little below them, wide at its root and tapering to the end, hanging straight in repose, but forming a curve, with the end pointing upwards, but not over the back, when the dog is excited.

*"Coat.—Colour (Value 5).—*Coat short and close lying, but not too fine over the shoulders, neck, and back. Colour apricot or silver fawn, or dark fawn-brindle. In any case, muzzle, ears and nose, should

be black, with black round the orbits, and extending upwards between them."

The following scale has been compiled:

	Value.		Value.
General character and		Eyes .....	6
symmetry .....	10	Chest and ribs .....	8
Body—height and sub-		Fore legs and feet .....	6
stance .....	10	Back, loins, and flanks.	8
Skull .....	12	Hind legs and feet.....	10
Face and muzzle .....	18	Tail.....	3
Ears .....	4	Coat and colour .....	5
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	54		46

*Grand Total 100.*

Weight of a dog, from 155lb. to 175lb.; of a bitch from 140lb. to 160lb.









## CHAPTER II.

### THE ST. BERNARD.

NO dog ever appealed more to the kindly instincts of humanity than the St. Bernard. Not his rich chesnut or tawny colour with dark facings and white collar and blaze, nor his kindly benevolent countenance and immense size and power, gave him his popularity. He won that on other "fields" than the artificial ones of dog shows. He earned his laurels and his popularity on the mountains of Switzerland. Tourists had talked of his intelligence, travellers had written stories of how he saved the lives of benighted travellers overcome by snowstorms. The St. Bernard was a hero in imagination and in anticipation, long before he was seen in this country; and when he was seen, his beauty and dignity at once made him master of the situation.

Some people had called him an Alpine mastiff—a bloodhound; others had termed him a mongrel—the consensus of opinion was in favour of his nomenclature being after that hospice of St. Bernard

in the Alps, where the monks had bred and reared the intelligent creature, and had trained him to go out in the snowstorms and seek for and find any poor traveller whose strength had failed him, and who might lay beneath a snow wreath midway between life and death. What schoolboy has not heard of Barry, the wonderful dog of St. Bernard, who in his time had been the means of saving the lives of some fifteen persons, though the number varies according to the imagination of the narrator, and thus is generally, but incorrectly, given as about forty. However, Barry was the most celebrated dog these monks ever possessed, and during fourteen years (he was fifteen when he died) went out on to the mountains and sought for the stricken-down wayfarer. It has been said that the unfortunate creature met his end by one whom he sought to rescue, taking him for a wolf and killing him. Another story is as follows :

In the winter of 1816, we are told that a Piedmontese courier arrived at the Hospice on a very stormy day, intent on proceeding on his journey to the village of St. Pierre, in the vale below, and where his family were. The monks attempted to dissuade him from leaving until the storm had abated, but he preferred going forward, so, with two guides and a couple of dogs, he set out down the

mountain. At the village the family of the man had become alarmed at his absence, and ascended the mountain in the hope of assisting him home. Two terrific avalanches at that time fell, and, rolling down from where the snows had accumulated for years, overwhelmed, first the courier, his guides, and the dogs, and, continuing their course, swept the man's family to destruction—and it is said Barry was one of the dogs that met so untimely an end.

Though the monks have had their dogs for many years—how many has not yet been traced, but their monastery was founded in 962—there is a painting extant by the Dutch artist Ross, who died in 1431, of three St. Bernards, which would be quite fair specimens at the present time, two orange and white, the other brown or orange without white. This picture was exhibited at the Agricultural Hall in 1897, and was then the property of Messrs. E. Thornton and J. Izet. As British subjects, St. Bernards are, however, but a modern institution. Perhaps they were originally at the Hospice for protection of person and property, as the following extract from an old English newspaper will testify:—

“In March, 1786, the convent of Sion, on the borders of Switzerland, was attacked by twenty-four villains, who demanded the treasure thereof. The monks replied that their rents were ill-paid, and

that at present they had very little stock, but they would show them where it was. Accordingly the robbers were shown upstairs where it was said to be, when, opening the door where the bloodhounds (?) were, and giving them the word, they fell instantly upon the villains and tore some of them to pieces. The others attempting to fly, were pursued and taken accordingly. These dogs are kept therefore, for the preservation of the convent, and to find dead bodies in the snow; for many perish in attempting to cross the Alps, whose bodies are found by these dogs and receive decent interment."

I think the above quotation particularly interesting, especially as it is about the time when we appear to have little knowledge of the St. Bernard. It would be by no means difficult to bring about such a change in the duties of a hound, who, when seeking the dead bodies of travellers, would not unfrequently discover other travellers who had not quite succumbed to the rigours of an Alpine storm, and so be the means of their preservation. Such cases occurring once or twice, and the kind-hearted monks would not be unwilling to discern that some refreshment placed around the neck of the dog would be seen and gratefully appreciated by the poor man who required such assistance.

It has been said that it was not until 1815 that

the first St. Bernard was imported to this country, this being a specimen that went to Leasowe Castle, in Cheshire, the seat of the Cust family. Many years, however, passed over before the great dog began to force himself upon the public. Landseer painted him on one of his canvasses, but this great artist called him the Alpine mastiff. Still, even then, he was known as the St. Bernard; for I have an extract from a magazine dated 1843, in which it is said that a St. Bernard puppy, born in London, endeavoured during a severe winter to track the footsteps in the snow just as his parents might have done years before on the Alps, and what made this still more strong was the fact that until the snow fell the puppy had never before attempted anything of the kind.

Then Albert Smith, a celebrated entertainer a generation or two ago, who pleased our fathers, and ourselves in our childhood with his interesting lectures and panoramas, after one of his visits to the continent, returned with a couple of St. Bernard dogs from the Hospice. These he made a most attractive feature of his already pleasant show, introducing them in connection with Mont Blanc. This would be about 1850.

Still the dog of the Hospice did not attain popularity. The country was not at that time educated

up to the pitch of dog shows ; railway communication was not then what it is now, and, moreover, it is quite likely that had the general public wanted St. Bernards, they could not have obtained them in sufficient numbers to satisfy the demand. Canine history tells us that a distemper of a virulent character attacked the Hospice dogs about fifty or sixty years ago, and killed all with the exception of one animal. Again, earlier than this, an avalanche, it is said, proved almost equally fatal in its effects. In 1852 "Idstone" informs us that there were but three dogs at the Hospice, although seven or eight others were kept in some of the neighbouring villages. The latter must have been always the case, and one cannot believe that at any time during the history of this dog it was so near extermination that but a single specimen remained. It is a well authenticated fact, although one that has hitherto been almost, or entirely, overlooked by writers on the St. Bernard, that dogs of the race have from time out of mind been used in Switzerland and on its borders as beasts of burden.

No doubt some of the villagers who did business with the monks were dog lovers, and would now and then beg or purchase a puppy, and from youngsters so obtained, and trained to draw light carts, quite as much as from those brought



up in the Hospice, our present race must have sprung. But old Barry was not nearly so big a dog as our best modern specimens, possibly he might be more active than some of them; nor was his colour so bright, nor were his markings so exact and regular as are looked for to-day. Barry was a dullish brindle and white, or white and brindle in hue, a pleasant-looking, smooth-coated dog, with nice character, I have been told, but a pigmy in comparison with the giants of our times. Some modern champions, with their thick, shaggy coats, twisted hind legs and huge heads, would, I am afraid, make but sorry progress through the snow, even though they might possess "double dew claws," with which nature was said to have provided them in order that they should not sink in the snowdrifts. Happily the latter fallacy has been exploded, and neither the absence of or presence of such abnormal excrescences has the slightest weight with a judge of St. Bernards at the present day. As a fact, the Swiss monks prefer the smooth or short-coated dogs, for reasons which are sufficiently obvious.

About thirty-five years it is since this dog began to obtain popularity in this country. A year or two prior to that time, specimens had occasionally appeared at our earlier dog shows, in the "variety" classes mostly, but in 1863 there was a canine

exhibition at Cremorne Gardens, and here a section was specially provided for the novel variety, and it had an entry of fifteen. Lord Garvagh was the judge, and he gave the first prize to the Rev. N. Bates's Monk—an imported dog, said at the time, as all imported dogs then were, to be descended from the celebrated Barry. The *Field* report of the show said that both this dog and the second prize winner were of the Newfoundland type, but being assured by the judge that they were such as the monks had, he said no more on the matter. The writer of the report evidently did not consider them the genuine article. However, this was the first class ever provided for St. Bernards at a dog show in the British Isles, and it was not until 1866 that the Birmingham Council followed the good example. Prior to this date, the exhibitors at the National show had to put their St. Bernards in the variety class, where the above-named Monk won in 1862, and Mr. Macdona's celebrated dog Tell, of great fame at that time and later, in 1865.

The first special class at Birmingham had an entry of thirteen; here again Tell won, a kennel companion named Bernard, second; and by this time Mr. Macdona had come quite to the front as the re-introducer and actual populariser of this noble variety. In 1868 the variety had progressed to such an extent



that the management at Curzon Hall provided two classes for them, viz., rough and smooth, and the latter had an entry of eighteen, the former one of eight only, both first prizes being won by Mr. Macdona. Then in 1869, at the Islington show, held at Laycock's Dairy-yard, the first big thing of the kind the present writer ever attended, two classes were again provided, and once more did the Hilbre House kennels furnish the leading winners, the smooth dog Monarque making his *début* on this occasion, taking an easy first, with his kennel companions Victor and Jungfrau second and third. Tell won in the other class, with Sir C. Islam's Leo second, and Mr. Macdona's Hedwig third. It will be seen, such advances had the variety made, that in all six prizes were given. So came about the popularisation of the St. Bernard, and, as the saying goes, he has never looked behind him since—gone on prospering rather, for where at that time one good enough to win at a big show would be worth fifty or one hundred pounds, to-day one with similar ability would, perhaps, command three or four times that sum. For as well as being the biggest and handsomest of the canine race, he is one of the most valuable.

Much has of late been written as to the deterioration of the mastiff, owing to its so-called admirers

breeding for certain points to an exaggeration, but such cannot with fairness be said with regard to the St. Bernard. Whether the latter is easier to produce true to type than other large varieties of the canine race it is difficult to say, but there is no doubt that there are now more good St. Bernards extant than is the case with any of the other big dogs. Monarque, Tell, and one or two more stood well ahead in their day. Then came Mr. Murchison's Thor, Mr. Fred. Gresham's Hector, The Shah, and Abbess, Miss Aglionby's Jura, one of the very best short-coated bitches I ever saw, followed by Mr. Macdona's Bayard; all of which in reality stood head and shoulders above other competitors. Meuthon—a big black and tan ugly dog, quite wrong according to prevailing ideas, maybe right according to the style and character of a hundred years ago, resembling a half-bred bloodhound or Thibetan mastiff—did a considerable amount of winning at the earlier shows, but happily, if he was used at stud at all, he has not passed down his defects to the present generation. Nor was the late G. Du Maurier's Chang, a dog of considerable reputation in his day, because of his repeated appearance in the skilful drawings of his owner in *Punch* and elsewhere, up to our present standard of excellence.

Mr. F. Gresham, at Shefford, in Bedfordshire, and the late Mr. J. H. Murchison, following Mr. Macdona, gave greatest attention to breeding and importing choice specimens. At one period, about 1874, the former with such animals as Monk, Abbess, Hector, The Shah, Dagmar, and Othman, possessed a kennel of St. Bernards which up to that time had not been equalled. At one of the Alexandra Palace shows, the Shefford strain made a record by winning first and second prizes in open rough dogs, the same in bitches and in smooth dogs, first honours in smooth bitches, all three prizes in puppies, as well as both cups that were offered.

Not long after this time, about 1882, Mr. R. Thornton introduced a beautiful smooth bitch, a brindle with white markings, called Leila, and for a year or so she was the best of her race appearing in public. Then longing eyes were cast at her from the other side of the Atlantic, and she with Mr. S. W. Smith's Duke of Leeds and two others of less note were sold for £800, this being about the first occasion upon which our American cousins opened their pockets to take from us some of our best show dogs.

Without much interlude we are brought right up to the institution of the St. Bernard Club in 1882, when the variety obtained another fillip, and two

years later the Rev. Arthur Carter introduced his immense puppy Plinlimmon, the biggest and handsomest dog ever seen up to that time. So it was considered such things had reached a climax, and Plinlimmon, who was bred by Mr. T. Hall, Brunswick Road, Liverpool, would be the dog of the century. Proving the chief attraction at all shows where he appeared, he reclined in dignity on his bench, he held levées throughout the day, he gave his paw to the ladies, he beamed pleasantly on the children. In colour handsome and bright, he was as active as a kitten, had not too much coat, measured  $33\frac{1}{2}$  inches at the shoulders, and weighed 210lb. when not over fat. Until 1886, Plinlimmon had not suffered defeat since arriving at maturity. However, in the autumn of that year, he had his colours lowered by a much smaller dog, Mr. King-Patten's Prince Battenberg, who, at Birmingham, was placed over the giant for the special cup—a decision that astounded his many admirers. Still, Mr. Patten's dog was a very perfect specimen so far as he went, and although his head was more typical than that of Plinlimmon, alongside the latter Prince appeared very small.

For such a dog as Plinlimmon there was a prompt demand. Mr. Carter was induced to sell him, then he became the property of different

individuals. Mr. J. F. Smith, Sheffield, had him for a time, so had Mr. S. W. Smith, Leeds, and the latter sold him to an American actor, now deceased, Mr. J. K. Emmett, for something like £800. Poor Plinlimmon was transferred from the boards of the bench to those of the theatre, and he died in the States, leaving many of his good qualities behind him stamped upon the features of a most numerous and very valuable progeny. There was but one fault to find with "Plin," as his friends loved to call him, he was rather too long in his face and skull; still a dog with but one fault must needs be almost perfection. Mr. J. F. Smith had also Save, an extraordinarily good dog, about this period; Bayard, who had also become his property, a grand dog in his day, was now in the sere and yellow; Mr. J. Royle had another excellent specimen in Duke of Marlborough; the giant Rector, Mr. S. W. Smith's, had gone to America, but equally good or better than any of them remained at home.

At the time Plinlimmon reigned in the long-coated division, a short-haired prototype of his held sway in the section to which he belonged. This was the brindled and white Guide—which Mr. H. I. Betterton had imported from Switzerland, where the dog had been bred by M. H. H. Dur—by Leon from Belline. From the time of the importation of

Guide and his half-sister Sans Peur, also bred by M. H. H. Dur, may be traced the great improvement made amongst smooth-coated St. Bernards in this country. In the Stud Book Sans Peur's pedigree is given as unknown, but she was by M. Siegenthaler's Barry from Belline, who was by Burki's Barry II.—M. Gurtner's Lola, by M. Egger's Barry A.—Diana A.

Mr. J. F. Smith, of Sheffield, owned an extraordinary collection of smooth-coated dogs, and his namesake—not relative—Mr. S. W. Smith, at Leeds, was almost equally strong in the rough-coated division. Other admirers were likewise coming to the front, if they had not already done so. Mr. L. C. R. Norris-Elye, Mr. T. Duerdin-Dutton, Mr. Hedley Chapman, the late Mr. H. I. Betterton, Mr. G. W. Marsden, jun., Mr. A. J. Gosling, Mr. J. W. Rutherglen, the late Mr. Hughes-Hughes, Miss Campbell, Mr. R. T. Thornton, Mr. W. R. Reid, Mr. Marshall, Mr. T. Thorburn, Mr. H. G. Sweet, Dr. Inman, &c., but it was not to one of them we were to be indebted for the next wonder in canine form.

In 1887 Mr. T. H. Green, who then resided at Wallasey, near Birkenhead, not far removed from where Mr. Macdona's champions had, twenty years before, rolled on the sands and dabbled



in the sea round about Hilbre Rectory, introduced a dog called Sir Bedivere, who was by Nero III. —Bena. Standing as high as Plinlimmon, equally heavy and quite as good in body, legs, feet, and general character, Sir Bedivere possessed a perfect head, so for the two years that he remained with us he took all before him whenever he competed in the show ring. His markings and his colour were superb, and although other good dogs have been brought out since, I fancy that Sir Bedivere's equal will not be found in a hurry. He was never defeated, and won the Club challenge cup on several occasions. Mr. Green repeatedly refused large offers for his favourite dog, but in the end was tempted, and, for a consideration of, it is said, £1300, Sir Bedivere went across the Atlantic, into the kennels of Mr. E. B. Sears, of Melrose, U.S.A., who eventually sold him to Mr. W. C. Reick, of New York, in whose kennels he continued his successes, although one of the American judges placed him below Princess Florence at the New York Show in the spring of 1893. The same year Sir Bedivere was sold to Mr. C. A. Pratt, Arkansas, but, like most of the high-priced St. Bernards that have been exported to America, his life was short, his death taking place in 1894. Sir Bedivere weighed 212lb., was  $33\frac{1}{2}$  inches high at the shoulder,

*B. Bedivere 212lb.*



but big as he was and all round the better dog, he never appeared to so fill the eye as the giant of his race as Plinlimmon was in the habit of doing.

Following him came Watch, a dog Mr. Betterton bred by mating Guide with Sans Peur, also an importation from Switzerland. Almost equally as heavy a dog, Watch did not look so big as Sir Bedivere, nor was he generally so well made in his body, nor so perfect on both fore and hind legs, nor in colour. Watch, however, was as near perfection as possible in head and expression, and in this respect was equally as good as his more handsomely - marked opponent. Watch, too, was destined for America, for, after becoming the property of Mr. J. F. Smith, he was sent over to the States for about 5000 dollars.

As a fact, our American cousins have spent large sums of money on some of our best St. Bernards, but whether the climate of the States does not suit them, or the living is different, or whatever be the cause, these imported dogs have never done well in their new homes, where many have died long before their time. Another of our best specimens, Princess Florence, an immense bitch, she scaled <sup>21</sup>21lb., was amongst their purchases, but she ultimately returned to this country. Then there came a lull in the American market and high

stone 21lb

prices were not given any more. Our cousins were breeding their own dogs. Still in 1895 they got another of our champions. This was Le Prince, who has done them great service as a stud dog.

Whilst alluding to big dogs, mention may be made of Mr. Shillcock's Lord Bute, said to be the one giant of his breed. He might stand a quarter of an inch higher than Plinlimmon, but he was not nearly so heavy a dog, and withal but a moderate specimen. He, too, went to America, with a stated weight of about 200lb., which, on arrival at his destination came to be increased about ten per cent. However there is no doubt that in the most recent purchase of Mr. Sant's Lord Brassey (imported in the winter of 1897, died in the spring of 1898) the Americans had the biggest dog in the world, he scaling not less than ~~234~~234lb. He was not a tall dog, but obtained his enormous weight through the thickness of his bone and great length of body. Another huge dog was Mr. Ralph's Duke of Firmont (also dead) who, matched for weight against Lord Brassey, was the taller of the pair, but failed to reach the weight of the latter by some few pounds.

Preceding or following the above, each year has found a relay of notable dogs, including: Mr. Duerdin-Dutton's Pegotty, Starboard, and Binnacle; Mr. Norris-Elye's Alta Bella, Bellegarde, and Beautiful

Abbess; Mr. S. W. Smith's Le Prince, who made such a successful *début* at Birkenhead, in the autumn of 1893, and again won all that was to be obtained at Edinburgh, his La Princesse, Duke of Florence, and Duke of Portland; Mr. T. Shillcock's Duke of Maplecroft, a son of Marvel and Princess Florence, his Lord Rosebery; Mr. J. F. Smith's Siegmund's Czar, imported from Switzerland; Mr. Lewis's Colonel V.; Dr. Inman's Winona; Mr. R. T. Thornton's Andromeda, Isobel, and Albula; Capt. Hargrave's Leofric, a son of Sir Hereward; Mrs. Temple's Leinster; Mr. Williamson's Lady Hatherton, litter sister to Lord Hatherton; Mr. W. S. Clarke's Mary of Argyle—all of the rough-coated variety. Nor must we forget to mention those big and good all-round dogs, Mr. Royle's Hapstead Primus and Lord Douglas, the latter making a most favourable first appearance at the Kennel Club Show in 1893, where he won several first prizes and came reserve for the challenge cup. A noteworthy incident occurred at the Birmingham Show in 1895, when Mr. Williamson entered his dog Lord Hatherton at the catalogued price of £200. After winning in his class he was put up by auction, and, following some spirited bidding, was knocked down to Mr. J. Royle, of Manchester, for £470—a record purchase at a dog show.





Amongst the best smooths, in addition to those already mentioned, are Mr. J. F. Smith's Keeper, Gondola, and a young dog named Marengo, by Keeper—Altruda, which he brought out at Darlington, where he defeated his sire Keeper and Argonaut for the special cup, but shortly after was purchased by Mr. Paterson, of Glasgow, who also bought Lola IV. and Sans Peur; Mr. G. W. Marsden's San's Reproche and Barrie; Mr. R. T. Thornton's Triton, purchased from Mr. J. F. Smith; Mr. West-Little's Tyrconnel, who had such a successful career in Ireland; Mr. Rutherglen's Argonaut; Mr. Loft's (now Messrs. Inman and Walmsley's) Kenilworth II. Traveller and Rambler, two sons of Keeper; Messrs. Thorburn's Scottish Gaylord; Mr. Storey's Princess Alice; and Messrs. Inman and Walmsley's Parsifal, the present holder of the St. Bernard Club's 100 guinea challenge cup. Another notable rough-coated St. Bernard was Sir Hereward (litter brother to Young Bute), who, however, owing to an injured tail, was prevented winning on the bench in his later days.

As to the rough and smooth varieties, both repeatedly appear in the same litter, a notable instance of the kind happening when Bena produced Sir Bedivere, for at the same time there was another puppy, afterwards called Baron Wallasey, which



was a thoroughly smooth-coated specimen, and took many prizes as such. The historical Barry was a smooth-coated dog, and the St. Bernardine monks prefer the smooth variety, for a short coat can be quite as protective as a long one, and would not be nearly so likely to be clogged up with snow as the latter.

There is an old painting by a German artist named Specht, of four St. Bernards on the mountains ; those dogs of the short-coated variety and excellent specimens too. Possibly why we in England have paid greater attention to the long-haired dogs is because of their greater beauty. Moreover, as a rule, almost all the best short-haired dogs have been and are white and brindle, a colour not nearly so pleasant as the rich red chesnut with white collar and blaze and dark shadings, which we have made fashionable in the rough-coated variety. It is said that the collar and the "blaze," the latter that white mark down the face from the occiput to the nose, are particularly valuable, as being representative of certain of the vestments worn by the order from which the dogs take their name. This may be so or not, probably not, for the monks themselves make no such acknowledgment, and they ought to know ; but so far as beauty is concerned, no doubt dogs so marked are much the handsomer, and in



this country are not considered perfect without that "blaze" and "collar."

Careful rearing and the best of food during his puppyhood, have added considerably to the St. Bernard's stature, and a full-grown dog of 200lb. weight is not now considered more extraordinary than was one of 160lb. weight a quarter of a century ago; and, whatever was once the case, there is no doubt that the race of St. Bernards is the biggest variety of dog known at the present day.

Mr. F. Gresham kindly furnishes the following:

"To anyone who has made a study of the St. Bernard since it has become naturalised in England, it must be apparent that the smooth-coated variety—or it would be, perhaps, more correct to say short-coated variety—is the more purely-bred animal. In support of this we have only to go back to the institution of dog shows, when the rough-coated champion Tell and the smooth-coated champion Monarque were the most perfect representatives of their breed in this country, to see that at that time the smooth variety was much nearer the standard of perfection than the rough, and, as already stated, at some of the earlier shows more smooth than rough dogs were benched. Were Tell to be brought into competition with such dogs as Sir Bedivere in the present day, he would cut but a

sorry figure ; whereas Monarque, even in such company as that of Watch, Keeper, or Triton, would have been able, if not to win, to make a good fight. Following on the same lines, the rough-coated Thor, who has done so much towards building up the kennels of the rough-coated St. Bernards here, and from whom are descended almost all the best of the variety, was very deficient in the most important properties, and on the bench was altogether a failure, even amongst the dogs that existed when he was alive. Furthermore, we have it on the best authority that short-coated St. Bernards are more highly prized than rough-coated at the Hospice of St. Bernard, and, moreover, are thought more of throughout Switzerland, the land of their birth, where there are at least a dozen good smooths to one rough. From these facts the conclusion may be arrived at that the rough-coated St. Bernard of to-day is a purely manufactured animal, whilst the smooth is a reproduction of the original St. Bernard, altered only in a slight degree as regards the texture of the coat.

“ From the first the rough-coated St. Bernard has been the more popular in England, notwithstanding that it is looked upon more or less as a mongrel in Switzerland ; but it must be remembered that here usefulness has not been a consideration,

and it has been the object of breeders to produce the most ornamental animal. The result is, that in this connection some magnificent specimens of the rough type have been bred, and there is now no necessity to seek for reinforcements from the home of the breed. Not so, however, with the smooth, which until recently have been more neglected, and only came into special favour when a powerful contingent was a few years ago sent over from Switzerland, from which almost all the best that we now possess have been produced. It is a notable fact that, although many first-class smooth-coated St. Bernards have been imported to this country, there is not a single instance of a rough specimen of really high quality ever having been purchased from breeders on the Continent.

“Notwithstanding the giant strides that have been made in the improvement of the rough-coated St. Bernard, as far as height is concerned it is a debatable point whether it has not been obtained at the expense of other more desirable properties. Great height without proportionate massiveness of build is generally accompanied by a weak constitution. To this may be attributed the number of ‘cripples’ that are to be seen on the show bench; the very tall dogs are all, without exception, narrow and weak in their hind-quarters. It is a point in favour of a

horse to go well from you, which means that it has wide hips and well let-down quarters ; the same applies to St. Bernards, and, until they can be bred with all points in proportion, the extreme height is a disadvantage rather than not, and accounts for so many prize dogs not being able, as it were, 'to carry their own weight.' Plinlimmon and Sir Bedivere stood over Hector, who was the star of his day fifteen or twenty years ago, quite two inches ; but Hector was at least three inches wider in hips and quarters, and so much better and stronger in the hind quarters."

During the summer of 1893 Mr. J. F. Smith, of Norfolk Lodge, Sheffield, who still owns, and has owned, some of our very best St. Bernards, took a tour into Switzerland in order to see his favourite dogs as they are in their native country. With the greatest kindness Mr. Smith put into pen and ink what he saw of the dogs there, and his impressions thereon, handing me the result for publication. I need scarcely say that this communication is by far the most complete, interesting, and practical account of the St. Bernard in Switzerland that has yet been printed. Let Mr. Smith tell the story of his pleasant tour in his own words :

" For the last fifteen years it has been my wish to visit Switzerland and the North of Italy with the

view of seeing for myself the home of the St. Bernard dog, a breed which I have kept and taken great interest in for many years. However, something or other continually turned up to prevent my taking the tour till this year, when, to my delight, I was able to start for the land of the Switzers on the 15th of June, 1893.

"Leaving home on the 15th June, I travelled *viâ* Calais and Paris to Lausanne, where I saw several St. Bernards, both rough and smooth coated, most of them very poor specimens.

"On the 19th I went to Berne, and the first visit I paid there was to M. H. Schumacher's. I found him at home, and he took me to see the only two St. Bernards he had, a smooth dog and a rough bitch; the former was a very tall animal, fully 34 inches high at the shoulder, symmetrical in shape, fair in bone, but sadly weak in muzzle. The rough bitch was only ten months old, handsome in colour and markings, though too small and weedy. M. Schumacher informed me that they had lost a great many of their best dogs during the last twelve months from influenza, but he said I should find a very good dog at Worb, a village about nine miles from Berne.

"After dinner at the hotel, I started for Worb at seven p.m. My driver, quite a jolly fellow, spoke

English well, and enlivened the journey by giving me some interesting accounts of the villages we passed through. It was nearly dark when we arrived at Worb (Worb is supposed to be the richest village in Switzerland), and found the owner of the dog in question (M. Fritz Lienhardt) was not at home, but he returned before we left. Mme. Lienhardt was kind enough to show me the dogs, or rather a smooth dog and a bitch. The dog, who had taken premier prize at Berne, is four years old, handsomely marked, patched very dark orange and white, with black shadings, tall, good in bone, fair in head, but hardly deep enough in muzzle. The bitch we saw here was typical in colour, orange and white patched, good in head, but she was too small. We reached Berne about 11.15 p.m.

“The following morning, June 25th, was the market day in Berne, and our driver of the previous day came to the hotel shortly after breakfast and said he should be glad to show me round the town. I was very glad of his service, as he knew most of the country people. We saw a great number of St. Bernards, both rough and smooth, in the market place lying down beside the carts which they had drawn to the market (the carts contained vegetables, fruit, flowers, cheese, butter, eggs, &c.). Some of the vehicles were drawn by a couple of dogs with a



man or woman between them to guide the shafts and prevent a spill or turnover. Other carts were drawn by only one dog. These dogs were a mixed lot, most of them St. Bernards ; many were but indifferent specimens of the breed, still there was the true type amongst them, and some fair breeding stock might be selected therefrom. The majority were smooth-coated, though there were some rough-coated ones, and there is no doubt many of them, had they been well reared, would have turned out good specimens of the variety.

"Some of the most notable Swiss breeders, when speaking of their best specimens, appear proud of boasting of the humble origin of their favourites, and one of them remarked to me, ' Ah ! I picked the sire of so-and-so out of a cart in —— market.' Evidently the farmers and peasants are fond of their breed of dogs, but they make them earn their living in a hardish way, and it is a pity they do not attend to the rearing of them better ; it would pay them well to do the latter.

"After a look through the market and other places of interest, we turned our steps to the Natural History Museum of Berne to see all that is left of the renowned Barry. According to the account in the museum Barry saved fifteen lives ; other stories have given the number at from forty to seventy-five.



I should take the Swiss Museum number as the correct one. Barry is a brindle and white patched smooth-coated dog, with a white muzzle, no blaze, rather long in head, narrow in muzzle at the end, but with good width below the eye; he is deficient in depth of skull, is small, I should say was not more than 26in. or 27in. high at the shoulder; he is down in the pasterns (this may be the fault of the man who 'set him up'), light in bone, and perfectly clear of anything approaching to a semblance of dew claws. I know it has been stated that the dew claws were probably taken off by the taxidermist, so I made a very careful examination of the hind legs and skin, and I now positively assert that Barry never had any dew claws.

"There are several heads of St. Bernard dogs to be found in the museum; also another stuffed specimen of the variety, a smooth-coated white dog, with a brindle patch on stern, and with an evenly marked head. This dog, though of fair size, is small in head. Some of the specimens of the heads are shapely and of good type.

"On the following day we started for Martigny. On the platform, at St. Maurice Station, I saw a very fair smooth dog, orange and white, patched, marked something like our English Keeper. This was far and away the best-headed St. Bernard I had seen in

Switzerland up to now ; in other respects he was on the small side, and only fair in bone. Arrived at Martigny we made arrangements for the ascent of the Great St. Bernard on the following day. Martigny is the place which supplies the monks who take their turn of duty at the Hospice.

“ On June 22nd we started for the Hospice of the Great St. Bernard, at 7 a.m., in a carriage drawn by strong horses. Our first stopping place was Orsiers, where we rested for half-an-hour, and then went forward till we reached Liddes, where we had lunch, and changed our horses for mules, leaving the former to await our return the following day. Proceeding on our journey with the mules, and changing our Swiss driver for the Italian guides, the ascent became much steeper and the road rougher. In due course we arrived at our last stopping place, the Cantin di Proz, where the mules were taken out of the carriage and made ready for the completion of our journey in the saddle. Here I saw a very nice smooth-coated St. Bernard bitch and seven puppies, the latter about two months old, by Barry, a dog kept at the Hospice. One of the puppies was white, another had a half white face, another a white head, the remainder being fairly marked ; the price asked for the puppies was from £8 to about £12 each.

"We reached the Hospice about 6.30 p.m., quite tired out, and we were kindly received by one of the monks. We found it very cold here, and learned that the lake had been frozen over up to within a few days previously. The dogs, which were running in and out of the Hospice at will, had welcomed us on our arrival with a chorus of barks.

"After an excellent dinner of four courses, washed down with good wine, I turned out with an attendant, who acted as keeper, to have a good look at the dogs. These were seven in number; one a white with a few orange flecks on him; some of the others had all white or half white faces; only two of them were really well-marked, as we understand the phrase, and with a single exception all were smooth in their coats. This exception was a good-coloured, small rough-haired bitch. About one half of the inmates of the kennel had dew claws, either single or double, and the remainder were without them. The monks think nothing of the rough-coated dogs, and impress upon visitors that the smooth are the true race. All the smooths were of a good type, especially a big, good-coloured old dog named Barry (I think twenty-five per cent. of the dogs in Switzerland are named Barry). Most of these dogs at the Hospice have dewlap and wrinkle to a greater or less extent. With the exception of

Barry, all were on the small side, and deficient in bone. When any strangers approach the Hospice the dogs bark, rush in-doors, and so give notice of the arrival. They then run out again and welcome the travellers by rushing up to them, wagging their tails, licking the hands of the visitors, and so escorting them to the Hospice. It will thus be seen that the dogs are very docile and quiet whilst loose and roaming about.

“At 8 p.m. the attendant called all the dogs together to be put up for the night. They stood in a row, and came up as he called them to be kennelled. Some of the kennels were loose boxes in the cow places on the ground-floor or cellar of the Hospice the others in a similar place under the Refuge. The Refuge is the building near the Hospice, which was built for the inmates of the Hospice to resort to in the case of fire, and the Hospice has been twice burned down. When the dogs are kennelled they become quite fierce, and bark savagely if a stranger approaches them.

“Next we were taken by one of the monks to see the library, museum, and chapel. In the latter is a painting of Bernard de Menthon and his dog, which we are asked to believe is the actual progenitor of the present race of St. Bernards. It is, however, but a common-looking creature, smooth coated, red in

colour, about the size of a pointer, and as unlike the modern race as possible. At this I could not be surprised, as the painting had been executed some hundreds of years after the founder of the monastery had died, which he did about 1081, and so of course the artist had to draw on his imagination as to what the original St. Bernard dog was like. In those days, and for long after, the Hospice dogs were merely watch dogs, used to protect the monks from the incursions of robbers, from which they suffered to a great extent in the early times of their existence. I am sorry to say the monks keep no register containing pedigrees of their dogs. I saw a photograph of a very fine St. Bernard dog named Hospice Pluto. This dog is now dead, but his portrait proved him to have an enormous head, with very heavy lips and dewlap. The monks considered this dog by far the best they have had for some years.

"I was happily successful in bringing back the photograph of this dog, also of another, a dog that had been sold by the monks for about £130 in English money. The St. Bernard dogs are still used in winter and bad weather in the duties which have made them historical. They are sent out to search the passes, in one direction to the Cantin de Proz (Swiss side) and back to the Hospice, and, in the other, from the Hospice to St. Remy (the Italian

side) and back. After every fresh fall of snow the paths became obliterated, and many serious and fatal accidents are prevented by the intelligence and sense of the dogs, who by smell distinguish the proper roads. The monks told me that they found the long-coated dogs quite useless for work of this kind. Their jackets become matted with the snow, but worst of all it affects their feet, 'balling' and freezing between the toes to such an extent as to cause lameness so severe as to quite incapacitate them from walking. Indeed, the sores arising therefrom are sometimes so serious as to cause death.

"The following morning we were awakened at 4 a.m. by the ringing of the Hospice Bell. Snow and rain mingled together came down in torrents, and the air was very cold; but we had breakfast at 6 o'clock, and then went to see the morgue. One of the monks took down a wooden shutter, and we looked through an open grated window, saw the bodies of travellers who had been found in the snow. We were told that the bodies were still quite fresh, though most of them had been there for years. About eight o'clock the rain and snow abated, so we commenced our return journey to Martigny. I omitted to say that in my bedroom at the Hospice was a very good coloured drawing of a group of five



St. Bernards. All these dogs were of the type of Hospice Pluto, before mentioned. At Chamounix we saw no St. Bernards, but the proprietor of the Hotel Tête Noir said he had once kept some, but he had found them so expensive that he had given them up.

“At Brieg we went to see M. Seiler Muller, who is a large breeder of St. Bernards. He disposes of, they say, one hundred dogs each year. Here I was first introduced to three smooth puppies, three-and-a-half months old, of very fair type; then came a dog and a bitch, fourteen months old, they were on the small side, the dog had just a fair head, the bitch was poor in that respect. Then came another bitch, with three nicely-marked young puppies; the dam was of rather nice type. The next to appear was a big-headed dog, middling in size and bone, he had an enormous skull, wide muzzle, which was deficient in depth, he was full in the cheeks, his ears were set a little too high; generally he was a fair all-round dog. I saw several others, but there was nothing extraordinary neither here nor at Zermatt, where M. Muller keeps some of his dogs. Still, there was plenty of fair breeding stock.

“I was much disappointed in not finding any St. Bernard dogs at the Simplon Hospice. Continuing our journey to Domo d'Ossola, Italy, and then forward



to Lake Maggiore, where we stayed at the Grand Hotel Palanza, by the banks of the water. Here we saw a handsome, rough-coated St. Bernard. He was fourteen years old, terribly fat and wheezy; rather short on the leg, but quite a handsome old fellow. He belonged to the proprietor of the hotel, who was very proud of him.

"I did not come across any more dogs worth taking note of until reaching Lucerne, on the 2nd of July. From here I went to Arth, to see M. Carl Steiner, who is a noted breeder of my favourite dog, and the owner of the famous Pluto von Arth whose stuffed remains form an object of interest in the museum at Zurich. I regret to say this dog was poisoned. M. Steiner was very pleased to see me, and showed me Bergman and Young Pluto. They are both sired by Pluto von Arth. Bergman was exhibited in England at the St. Bernard Club Show, held at Kingston in 1893. I must say he looked a different creature here to what he did there when he obtained the reserve. He is a big dog, was in splendid condition, and good all round, if we except his head, which is plain. His brother, Young Pluto, was far and away the best smooth dog I saw in Switzerland. He is an orange and white dog, of the type of our champion Keeper, but he is not so good in muzzle; he is also rather straight in stifles. However, Young

Pluto is an excellent dog, and one that any man might be proud to own. I next saw a magnificent bitch pup, Gemmi d'Arth, by Bergman. This youngster was already a giantess, though only six months old; in colour, orange and white patched, with a lovely head and expression. Alas, I heard from M. Steiner, on my return, of her death, and I sympathise with him in the loss of such a grand specimen.

"A great many St. Bernards are to be seen in Lucerne and neighbourhood, some of them quite fair, but, as a rule, they are a poor, narrow-muzzled lot. After a short stay at Lucerne I went to Lauterbrunnen to see M. Gurtner (the brothers Gurtner are old breeders of St. Bernards), who is proprietor of the Hotel Steinbock there. I asked to see the St. Bernards, and arranged to stay the night with him, which I enjoyed very much, as M. Gurtner and I had a good long chat on the subject so congenial to both of us. Here I first saw a very fair bitch with six puppies. This bitch, I learned, had been given to M. Gurtner by the late Mr. W. O. Hughes-Hughes. I next saw a grand old rough bitch, own sister to champion Guide. She is very typical, like all the rest of her illustrious relatives. Then came a very good rough dog, Gyr. He showed age, but was a capital stamp, with an excellent head of the


Bayard type. Another good sort of dog was Max, but his perfections were almost lost by the poor condition he was in. Pollux, the dog I particularly wished to see, was at Murren, but M. Gurtner kindly sent for him. This is a fine dog in many particulars, but I must confess I was rather disappointed, as I had heard so much about him. He is big, fairly marked on his head, white body, with patch of orange on stern and shoulders. His coat is too rough and wavy for one of the smooth variety, his head is massive, extravagant in lip and dewlap, the muzzle does not cut off square enough, and is narrow at the end, he is deficient in bone in his hind legs, where he is likewise too straight, and he is not the best of movers; nevertheless, he is of good type, and should be valuable as a stud dog.

“From Lauterbrunnen I went to Biel to see the kennel of Major Fritz Blösch; here I was introduced to a nice orange and white bitch, excelling in head properties, and beautifully marked; also to a good rough-coated dog, orange and white patched body, with a well-marked head, and in splendid condition—his owner thinks a lot of him. I also saw two brindle and white six months’ pups, well grown, but poor in head, but Major Fritz Blösch said he had some good ones in the country.

“From Biel I proceeded to Basle, and whilst there

called on Dr. and Madam Siegmund, who are both well known as admirers of the St. Bernard. Of course I must go and see the dogs, and the first to come under my inspection was the rough-coated Czar (he is the sire of the smooth-coated bitch Arosa, imported some time after by the Rev. A. Carter). This dog is a handsome orange and white, perfectly marked, stylish, and very active, beautiful in symmetry, but he is not quite so heavy in bone as English fanciers like, and his head, though noble in expression, is hardly massive enough in muzzle. Still, I considered him the best rough dog I had seen in Switzerland, and supported my opinion by purchasing him. He had taken first and special as the best rough-coated dog at Zurich Show that year (1893). I then saw a big dog puppy, ten months old, by Czar; he has an enormous head, the expression of which is spoiled by light eyes, and he is not quite sound on his hind legs. Two puppies, four months old, by Czar, were very promising. A good stamp of brood bitch finished this 'show.'

"In conclusion, I may say that I had a most interesting tour, thanks to my friends abroad, who were so good in showing me their dogs and imparting all the information I required. English breeders are under the impression that all the best St. Bernards are in England and in America. No

doubt many of them are, but let me say there are excellent dogs still left in Switzerland, and the amount of material for breeding others is almost inexhaustible. In Switzerland they consider the smooths to be the representatives of the pure breed, and the roughs are thought little of except to mate with the smooths, which crossing gives the latter greater size and more stamina. The Swiss view as to the type is very similar to ours, but they lay great stress on the tail being turned up at the end so, , and not straight as we like it. Some recommend that the bitches should not be bred from till they are at least three years old. I cannot say I agree with them on this point, but Major Fritz Blösch was about the only Swiss I met of my opinion, viz., that a bitch should be bred from at eighteen months old.

"As before stated the St. Bernard dogs are still used in Switzerland for the purpose of finding the bodies of lost travellers or guides, and only a short time previous to my visit a guide was missing, but was ultimately discovered by one of the dogs in a gorge buried in snow to the depth of several feet. The dog marked the spot, the rescue party set to work and, after digging for some hours, the guide was found in the spot indicated by the sagacious animal.

"Respecting size, the Swiss say a dog from 30in. to 32in. is big enough; they prefer a dog about

join., and insist that we English go in for nothing but size. I told them they were mistaken in this idea, and, as examples to the contrary, mentioned the names of our champion dog Keeper and the bitch Gondola."

The following is the English Club's description of the St. Bernard :

"*Head*.—Large and massive, circumference of skull being more than double the length of the head from nose to occiput. From stop to tip of nose, moderately short; full below eye, and square at muzzle; great depth from eye to lower jaw. Lips, deep throughout, but not too pendulous. From nose to stop straight. Stop, abrupt and well defined. Skull, broad, rounded at the top, but not domed, with somewhat prominent brow.

"*Ears*.—Of medium size, lying close to cheek, but strong at the base, and not heavily feathered.

"*Eyes*.—Rather small and deep set, dark in colour, and not too close together, the lower eyelid drooping, so as to show a fair amount of haw.

"*Nose*.—Large and black, with well-developed nostrils.

"*Teeth*.—Level.

"*Expression*. — Should betoken benevolence, dignity, and intelligence.

"*Neck*.—Lengthy, muscular, and slightly arched, with dewlap developed.



“ *Shoulders*.—Broad and sloping, well up at the withers.

“ *Chest*.—Wide and deep.

“ *Body*.—Back, level as far as the haunches, slightly arched over the loins ; ribs well rounded, and carried well back. Loin, wide and very muscular.

“ *Tail*.—Set on rather high, long, and, in the long-coated variety, bushy ; carried low when in repose, and, when excited or in motion, slightly above the line of the back.

“ *Legs and Feet*.—Fore-legs, perfectly straight, strong in bone, and of good length. Hind legs, heavy in bone, and of good length. Hind legs, very muscular. Feet, large, compact, with well-arched toes.

“ *Size*.—A dog should be at least 30in. in height at the shoulder, and a bitch 27in. (the taller the better, provided the symmetry is maintained) ; thoroughly well proportioned, and of great substance. The general outline should suggest great power and capability of endurance.

“ *Coat*.—In the long-coated variety, should be dense and flat ; rather fuller round the neck ; thighs feathered, but not too heavily. In the short-coated variety, should be dense, hard, flat, and short, slightly feathered on thighs and tail.

“ *Colour and Markings*.—Red, orange, various



shades of brindle (the richer the colour the better), or white with patches on body of either of the above-named colours. The markings should be as follows: White muzzle, white blaze up face, white collar round neck; white chest, fore-legs feet, and end of tail; black shadings on face and ears. If the blaze be wide and run through to the collar, a spot of the body-colour on the top of the head is desirable."

#### OBJECTIONABLE POINTS.

Ill-Temper.  
Split nose.  
Unlevel mouth and cankered teeth.  
Snipy muzzle.  
Light or staring eyes.  
Cheek bumps.  
Wedge head.  
Flat skull.  
Wall eyes.  
Domed skull.  
Badly set or heavily feathered ears.  
Too much peak.

Short Neck.  
Curly coat.  
Curled tail.  
Flat sides.  
Hollow back.  
Roach back.  
Ring tail.  
Open feet or hare feet.  
Cow hocks.  
Straight hocks.  
Self-coloured (*i.e.*, a self-coloured dog is one that has no black shadings or white markings).

#### DISQUALIFYING POINTS.

Dudley, liver, flesh-coloured, nose.  
Fawn, if whole-coloured, or with black shadings only.

Black, black and tan, black and white, black tan and white, and all white.

The numerical points are as follows, but they are not drawn up by the Club :

	Value.		Value.
Head, ears, eyes.....	25	Stern .....	5
Expression and character.	15	Legs and feet.....	10
Neck, shoulders, and chest	10	Coat .....	10
Body .....	15	Colour and markings...	10

*Grand Total 100.*

The weight of a dog may be from 180lb. to 220lb. or more ; of a bitch from 160lb. to 190lb. or over.

That there is no fear of the St. Bernard dog becoming extinct, as at one time appeared to be not unlikely, may be inferred from the fact that the late Mr. Hughes-Hughes published a volume containing the pedigrees of nearly six thousand St. Bernards. The names of many of them are not to be found in the Kennel Club's publications, Mr. Hughes-Hughes obtaining particulars of such during his visits to Switzerland. A troublesome work carefully and laboriously compiled. So much so that one regrets the early decease of Mr. Hughes-Hughes, who has left behind no one to continue in future volumes so interesting a book of pedigrees.

Although just now in 1898 the St. Bernard cannot be said to be the popular creature he was a dozen

or more years ago, still there is no gainsaying the fact that he is still the most admired of all big dogs, and continues to sell for a good deal of money when anything like approaching perfection. As my publishers are, as it were, on the eve of going to press with this edition, news comes that a young dog called Lord Newlands has just been sold by Mr. Storey, of Annfield Plain, Co. Durham, for £490, the purchaser being Mr. C. R. Pearson, of North Kilworth, near Rugby. Although this sum cannot be compared with other big figures which have been paid for an individual specimen of the St. Bernard, and alluded to on a previous page, it is some proof that the variety more than holds its own against all opponents, and perhaps, after all, the enormous prices were really exaggerations, and no criterion of actual value, for they were forthcoming at a time when several wealthy Americans were faddists in the matter of big dogs, and clever people in this country knew how to act in the matter, and did so to their own aggrandisement.

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## CHAPTER III.

### THE NEWFOUNDLAND.

UNTIL the St. Bernard became popular in this country the black and white Newfoundland dog appeared to hold the admiration of the public. He was a hero in his own line, and "the travellers' tales" had informed us that this large dog occupied itself in its native country in saving the lives of drowning sailors and swimming with a rope in its mouth to some stranded vessel, thereby enabling the shipwrecked mariners to obtain communication with the mainland and so escape a watery grave. Then, when brought here, the Newfoundland dog still maintained its liking for the water. On more than one occasion it had been known to save a drowning child, and Landseer further immortalized it by painting his great work "A Distinguished Member of the Royal Humane Society," a black and white Newfoundland dog, abounding in dignity and repose, which perhaps has been engraved and republished oftener than any other work of the great



animal painter. Fifty years ago a large proportion of the anecdotes of dogs related to the sagacity of the Newfoundland. Whether he really deserved all the good things that were said of him is a matter of opinion, or perhaps he has degenerated in intelligence during the past half century, for he is now only as other dogs and no more.

How he came to be so intimately connected with the island in North America from which he takes his name is not quite easy to make out. Possibly he might have been introduced to that country from England; still, the dog common to the island a couple of generations ago was very far removed from the handsome creature we see gracing our show benches at the present time. That this dog is thoroughly identified with the island from which it takes its name may be surmised from the fact that the head of an excellent specimen is reproduced on one of the postage stamps of that Colony.

One would not be surprised to find that the St. Bernard and the Newfoundland originally sprang pretty much from a similar cross. Occasionally we still see one of the former variety by his colour and general appearance nearly approaching the latter in appearance, and *vice versâ*, especially when, as sometimes happens, the Newfoundland has brindled marks about his head. We are told that an actual

use for this variety of dog was found by the poorer inhabitants of Newfoundland, who in lieu of horses harnessed him to their carts and in other ways made him a beast of burden, when they were not engaged in fishing operations. Moreover, these poor creatures were badly treated, fed on the offal of the codfish when it was procurable, and when such was not to be had the poor canine had to make shift for himself, and either starve or take toll from the flocks of the wealthier inhabitants.

Notwithstanding such ill-treatment, the dog remained faithful and constant to his owner, and bore the reputation as a protector of property not to be excelled. For these good qualities, and not for his actual beauty, was he originally produced, and no doubt when some seafaring man noticed one of these animals less gaunt and better furnished than usual, he for a few shillings would become its possessor, and bring the "foreign" dog home as a present from across the sea to his friends. When properly cared for and attended to he would no doubt improve in appearance, be a favourite with his owners, and become as it were re-acclimatised in that country from which I do not doubt his original parents came. The Newfoundland is so unlike any of the native bred *canidæ* of the northern territories of America in every respect, not excepting in dis-

position, that there can be little doubt he was in the first instance produced by cross-breeding with European dogs, and most probably with those from Great Britain, whose shipping connection with Newfoundland has always been greater than that of any other country.

Little was heard about the Newfoundland dog until towards the beginning of the present century. Bingley, in his "Natural History," date 1809, does not allude to him, but a little earlier the "Sportsman's Cabinet" mentions him as being "universally known in every part of the kingdom." Reinagle gives an illustration of the dog, a black and white, very much of the same type as we have now, and the writer of the article in the work named eulogising him in grandiloquent terms, makes him indeed a canine prodigy. There is also extant a large and scarce engraving (1805), after a painting by H. B. Chalon, of the head of a black and white Newfoundland, said to be a "famous" dog about that time. It, however, represents a very commonplace animal compared with what is seen to-day. But, as we have said, our modern dog and that originally brought from the island are totally distinct, and even so far back as when Richardson wrote, about 1845, this difference was acknowledged, and the strain known in this country was said to be "less sagacious, less

active, and more apt to display irregularity of temper than the original breed," which was much the smaller animal of the two.

Here we have more to do with the Newfoundland in 1898 than with what he was said to be very much earlier in the present century. Now we have two distinct Newfoundlands; the one quite black, where even a white chest and white toes are supposed to be a disfigurement to a certain extent, but this is an erroneous idea; the other black and white, called a "Landseer," after the artist, whose famous picture has already been alluded to. The so-called St. John's, or lesser Newfoundland, of which much has been written, appears to have died out altogether. No one breeds him now, and if he survives at all it is in the smooth or wavy-coated retrievers that have made such progression of late.

The author of "Dogs of the British Isles" had a typical specimen of the Newfoundland—given him on the death of the "Old Bushman" (whose works on travel and sport are most interesting)—a dog the latter had imported as the best of the race he could find; handsome, but not quite so big as many of the English specimens, he standing 28in. high at the shoulders. His colour was a rusty black, which is seldom seen now, but no doubt quite correct, and he had double dew claws. My old and

esteemed friend, the late Mr. William Lort, always impressed upon me that this "rustiness" in the colour was correct, and further remarked that all the best dogs he ever saw abroad possessed it to a larger or smaller extent.

A contributor, writing to the *Field* in 1869, and he wrote with authority, said with regard to this tinge: "The black dogs, especially when young, often appear to have a brown tinge in their coats. It is to be seen more or less in most dogs. Combing will often remove it if the dog has not been well kept, but I do not think much combing is advisable. Nor is the slight brown tinge (not visible in all lights) ugly, nor inconsistent with the purity of breed, though it would be better absent." A writer much earlier than this, namely, in 1819, says that twenty or thirty years ago the Newfoundlands were "large, rough-coated, curly-haired, liver and white dogs." Occasionally we now see a Newfoundland dog entirely liver or brown in colour, and doubtless this hue is inherited much in the same way as the brown tinge, and therefore I quite agree with the description of the specialist club, which does not penalise that tint. The brown or brown and white dogs it does not acknowledge, and naturally gives preference to those specimens entirely black.

In the early days of the canine exhibitions, prizes were often given to black and white dogs when shown in the same division as the blacks, but the latter, when equal in excellence to their more variegated cousins, in nine cases out of ten beat them, so breeders gave their attention mostly to the whole-coloured variety, which causes it to be the popular one of the present day. Still just now there seems to be a growing appreciation of the black and white variety, and at some recent shows they have been benched in considerable numbers.

The first dog show held at Birmingham, in 1859, was entirely confined to sporting dogs, but the succeeding one in 1860 included a class for Newfoundlands, and this induced an entry of only half a dozen, a bitch of Lieut.-Colonel Inge's winning the first prize. Of this bitch it was said at the time that "she was one of the handsomest ever seen, and had been bred at St. John's from the best stock in the colony." At the Agricultural Hall, in 1862, classes for both dogs and bitches were provided. There was a capital entry of forty-one, and Mr. A. Minton's Nigger won in dogs, and a Mr. Davies both prizes in bitches. Second prize was won by quite a celebrated animal, a showman's dog, Napoleon, belonging to Mr. Van Hare. This was one of the few Newfoundlands which have been



trained to perform on the stage and in the ring, and his owner said he only required one lesson to be perfect in any new trick he had to learn. From Van Hare's account, Napoleon must have been a most sagacious animal, for besides being able to play a game at cards and perform the "three card trick," he could "trot to music, leap bars, through balloons, off a spring board over a number of horses, and perform other feats of a fascinating character."

Following the Agricultural Hall show, Birmingham had seventeen entries in the same year, and at a large exhibition, also in 1862, which took place in Holborn, nineteen entries were obtained, a dog named Azoff first. Two years later, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, at the London show, won first prize with a fine dog called Cabot, and most of these early winners were either black or with a little white on their chests, or on one or more of their feet. H.R.H.'s Cabot must not be confounded with Mr. T. Burgess' dog of the same name, which did a considerable amount of winning a few years later. However, few of the above were of any particular excellence; but in 1867, at Curzon Hall, we were introduced to the Rev. S. Atkinson's Cato, who was by Heenan I. out of Nellie. Both the sire and dam of Cato were said to be descended from imported parents.

Cato was an exceptionally fine black dog, and for a series of years remained the monarch of the benches. In 1869 he won in a class of sixteen dogs at the show held in Laycock's Dairy Yard, where Mr. E. Nichols was an exhibitor, and old show-goers will recollect that the cover of the catalogue issued on this occasion was adorned with an engraving of Landseer's "Distinguished Member."

Then in 1870 Cato gained additional notoriety. It was in that year his owner was staying at the charming little watering place, Newbiggin-by-the-sea, on the Yorkshire coast. Cato was there, too, to blow the dust of town from him, for just before he had been in London, and as usual, winning the chief prize at the dog show there. As Mrs. Atkinson was throwing her husband's walking-stick into the water for her dog to retrieve, two ladies bathing in the sea appeared in danger of drowning, and cried loudly for help. Though Mr. Atkinson could not swim, he made his way to the ladies, who, now and then washed off their feet by the heavy surge, had lost their presence of mind. One lady was safely got into a boat that had been brought to the rescue; the other, with Mr. Atkinson, was in danger of being drowned. Now Cato came to the rescue, and, swimming to his owner, allowed him to put his arm over his shoulder, and so took his exhausted

master and his fair charge to the shore, where the dog received the plaudits of the excited spectators.

No doubt, taking one exhibition with another, the classes provided for Newfoundlands were almost as well filled about twenty years ago as they have been later. For instance, there were in the dog class but nine entries at Curzon Hall in 1891, five in bitches, and nine in a division for novices; whilst five of the latter were competing earlier on. Thus there were but eighteen dogs benched at this great show in three classes. This can hardly be taken as a fair average, for most modern shows would provide additional classes for the black and white variety, and the Kennel Club Shows usually have from twenty to thirty competitors. At Preston (Lancashire) Show, which took place in the spring of 1892, special arrangements had been provided to make Newfoundlands one of the features in the Hall. Here the judge, Mr. Mansfield, an ardent admirer of the breed, and one of the promoters of the gathering, by his endeavours got together by far the best collection of Newfoundlands that had been seen at any show for years. Altogether 128 dogs and bitches competed, they being divided into ten classes. This large entry of Newfoundlands remains a record to this day.

However, before entering more fully into the Newfoundland of the present day, mention must be made of one or two giants of the race that won most of the prizes, say, a dozen years or more ago. Winning about 1880 and later was Mr. Howard Mapplebeck's Leo, an uncommonly fine dog, and, like most others, said to be descended from imported parents on both sides. He was black in colour, and at times showed a little of the rusty tinge. He stood about 30 inches in height at the shoulders, and weighed 136lb. He was a very big dog.

Mr. T. W. Wildman, of Bingley, about this period gave considerable attention to the exhibition of Newfoundlands, and possessed admirable specimens in such animals as Lion, Mayor of Bingley, and Black Prince, which were, however, rather smaller dogs than either Cato or Leo alluded to earlier on. Mr. R. W. Moll was exhibiting some excellent dogs at this time, and so were Mr. W. Coates, the late Mr. H. R. Farquharson, and Mr. E. Nichols.

The Newfoundland has never taken particularly high rank as a show dog, nor does the establishment of a club to look after his welfare appear to have very much increased his popularity, though at the present time there are more good Newfoundlands both black and other than black in the country than has been the case previously. But sometimes.

he is judged in a rather in and out fashion, and on more than one occasion have I seen a second rate dog placed over one that could in every way be deemed in the first rank, and for no other reason than the mere caprice or whim of the judge.

A few years ago there was considerable controversy as to the swimming powers of Newfoundlands, and sundry water competitions were arranged in connection with dog shows. Such, however, proved neither popular nor interesting, and in one noteworthy case a very much-lauded dog refused to enter the water at all. The last competition of the kind was at Aston, near Birmingham, in 1882, where the best water dog was undoubtedly the late Mr. Bagnall's Landseer, Prince Charlie, which won a first prize, a Bedlington terrier being his most formidable opponent.

It may be worth mentioning that the Newfoundland dog as he is now found in the island which gave him his name, is a sad mongrel creature, if he exists at all in any degree of purity. It is likewise noteworthy that in the United States of America no Newfoundlands are kept anything at all equal to the best specimens of the variety as we have produced them in the British Isles.

Although I have owned a Newfoundland or two, I never had one sufficiently long or made his

acquaintance to such an extent as to be able to speak with great authority on the nature and disposition of the animal. My lack of opportunity in this respect can, however, be easily remedied, and Mr. T. E. Mansfield, a gentleman whose favourite the Newfoundland has been for many years, kindly contributes the following practical, and therefore valuable, notes. He says :

“The Newfoundland is essentially a companionable dog, his whole nature is wrapped up in human beings, anxious to serve them at every turn ; his disposition is kindness in itself, and he adapts himself to every emergency, and can be taught almost anything, even to make as good a rat catcher as a terrier. Some Newfoundlands are slow to make friends, but when once that relationship is established they never forget you, and are steadfast companions through life, and to their owner what the poor man’s mongrel dog was to him,

Made him more content with fate.

“Of course, there are, as in all things, exceptions, but, taking him as a whole, no more suitable dog as a companion can be found than a good Newfoundland.

“During the last dozen years the Newfoundland has grown in popularity by leaps and bounds. I



find at the Kennel Club Show in July, 1885, there were eight classes with thirty-seven entries. Seven months later, at the same club show, there were again eight classes with seventy-one entries. At the Jubilee Show in June, 1887, there were nine classes with sixty-five entries to be found. It is not only at the Kennel Club Shows that the entries have so largely increased, but at all the provincial shows. Prior to and some little time after the year 1884, it was rarely we saw more than one class for Newfoundlands, with from three to half a dozen entries. Then Liverpool came off with sixty-five entries, and so they go on increasing until Preston Show of 1892 reached the enormous entry of 128.

“Not only in numbers, but in the type and quality of the dogs has this improvement gone on, until there is at the present day—in the blacks at all events—an entire absence of that large coarse—with rough soft coat, big ears, long face, flat bowed legs without muscle, and with no general appearance to recommend him—type of dog, so frequently seen years ago. It is to be hoped breeders of Newfoundlands will not be led away with the idea prevailing in some quarters that size is the principal thing at which to aim. Herein lies a very great danger. Whilst, however, admitting that size is very desirable,

it must not be gained at the expense of type and general appearance, for a Newfoundlander must not be an awkward, slouching animal, but smart, active and full of life and go—looking at all times ready to perform his duty—to enter a rough sea.

“To give an accurate description of a black Newfoundland is an extremely difficult task, for the simple reason that a really typical dog is in appearance almost indescribable; he must be seen to be appreciated. I will, however, attempt what I consider a fairly intelligible one. To begin with, he must have a good general appearance—symmetrical throughout—head should be well developed, with a clean-cut muzzle, not too long, large skull, with small, leaf-like ears set well back from the eye low down on the skull, and fall close to the head, so that when you look him in the face they are scarcely perceptible, being hidden at the back of the jawbone; the eyes should be dark—not black—and fairly wide apart. Much difficulty is being experienced in getting the dark eye, which adds so much to the appearance of the head, many of the best dogs having light eyes, and the question is, where does this defect come from? You may mate a dark eyed dog and bitch, still light eyes will be found in their progeny. It has occurred to me that the light eye must to some extent be natural to a black animal,

for a black cat has usually light coloured eyes, though dark orange coloured eyes are preferable, and a black horse has generally a light blue one, and so I might go on down to pigeons. I must admit I would much rather see a kind light eye than a black sour one, which always appears most treacherous.

“ The fore legs should be straight, well lined with muscle, to give them a round, powerful appearance, ending with good, large, well closed feet, standing on them like a terrier. The chest above must be wide, and come well down, giving the dog a bold, broad front; the body should sway well between the fore and hind quarters, and not tucked up at the loins; powerful hind quarters, with no horrible cow-hocks, and ending with a tail the length of which should not reach below the hocks, and be without a kink, curl, or curve, and carried low down. There is nothing to my mind more unsightly in a Newfoundland than a tail curled on the back or with a kink in it; personally I like to see the tail carried more after the style of a setter, and do not quite agree with the Club's authorised carriage of tail. Now as to coat. To obtain a correct coat is another difficulty, and to describe a proper one is about as difficult; the purpose for which it is required makes it so. It must, however, be straight,

without wave or curl, long, coarse hair, not wool, with a good warm under coat, which water will not penetrate; the arrangement being that, when the dog comes out of water and shakes himself, which he invariably does, the water is thrown off, and he is dry in a very short time.

“Looking at a good, well-built dog should be like looking broadside on at a first-class cob; he must be built on similar lines. The average height of a dog is 28in., and bitches 25in. to 27in., at the shoulder. For a more detailed description of the points of a Newfoundland I must refer readers of these notes to the Newfoundland Club's description, which is printed below.

“It may not be out of place here to give a short description of some of the best Newfoundlands' kennels of the present day, but I cannot in justice do so without first travelling back a few years to bring in poor old Nelson I., a dog that may well be said to have been the father of Newfoundlands in this country. In doing so I must not forget his breeder, the late Mrs. Cunliffe Lee, a lady who probably had little credit given her for the part she played in producing several really first-class dogs. Nelson I. was not large in size, but quite large enough, and answered well the above description of a Newfoundland. From this grand old dog

we may trace the present race of high-class Newfoundlanders, many of which I shall hereafter mention. From Mrs. Lee he went to the kennels of Mr. E. Nichols, and there he was mated with a bitch with pedigree unknown, named Jennie. From this alliance was produced, in the year 1881, a litter of six, all of which have left triumphant records in the exhibition world and Stud Book, their respective names being Courtier, Bruce II., Lady Mayoress, Lady-in-Waiting, Sybil, and Mistress of the Robes.

"From them may be traced the foundations of half a dozen kennels, which I will shortly describe, and commence with that of Mr. E. Nichols, of St. Mary Abbott's Terrace, Kensington, who for years, it may be said, quite took the lead as a breeder of Newfoundlanders. Nelson I. and Lady Mayoress were almost invincible in the show ring; indeed, Lady Mayoress in her time beat every dog and bitch living except her sire, Sybil also doing excellent service. After breeding numberless high-class good dogs, Mr. Nichols secured Lord Nelson, a son of Nelson I., from Mrs. Lee, his breeder, and this young dog, at eighteen months old, astonished the Newfoundland world, as he combined great size with all the points of a good dog. Brought out at the Crystal Palace, he "cleared the board," won great honours for several years,

but eventually he grew rather coarse, and had to make way for others.

“Following Mr. Nichols’ comes the kennel of the late Mr. H. R. Farquharson, M.P., of Eastbury Park, Blandford, now Mrs. Henry Farquharson’s. In their infancy Mr. Farquharson purchased, from Mr. Nichols, Courtier, Lady-in-Waiting, and Mistress of the Robes, all of which did great credit to this well-known kennel, for, besides winning prizes, Lady-in-Waiting produced such dogs as Hanlon, Alderman, and Bismarck. Hanlon, who secured his championship by successive wins at Kennel Club Shows, is a regular Newfoundlander, his ears are slightly too large, and that is all the fault that can be found with him. This kennel also contained the well-known dogs Joe Sadler (the sire of Hanlon), Statesman, and Gunville.

“Another modern enthusiast is Mr. C. C. Ralli, of Brunswick Buildings, Liverpool; and Mrs. Matthews, Barrow-in-Furness; Mr. Crossfield, Captain Jolly, Mr. James Green, Mr. W. C. King, Mr. J. Caroline, Mr. W. Paterson, Glasgow; Mr. H. Champness, Westminster; Mr. G. Chapman, Highbury; Mr. C. Haldenby, Hull; Mrs. J. Dickson, Mr. Caroline, Lady Sybil Tollemache, Mr. H. Dickman, Mrs. A. G. Ingleton, Mrs. W. C. King, Mr. A. Van Weede, and Mr. J. W. Bennett, all own or



have owned good specimens. As already hinted, there are many fine Newfoundland dogs now to be found, amongst the best blood being Mr. H. Farquharson's Statesman and Hannah; Messrs. Stafford's Black Watch II.; Mr. Cooper's Sir Gibbie, Mr. Ingleton's Wolf of Badenoch, Mr. King's King Stuart, Mr. Van Weede's Queen of Surrey, Mr. W. Coates' Lady Collingwood, Mrs. Mansfield's Triumph, and Mrs. Dickson's Merry Mariner being about the best now on the boards.

"I must say something of my wife's kennel, in which there have been between thirty and forty Newfoundlands at one time. After purchasing Leo V. and Champion Zoe, we found we were on the wrong road, but we had, under the guidance of Mr. Nichols and Mr. Farquharson, obtained Courtier, Lady Mayoress, and Gunville, also The Black Prince, Sybil, and Mistress of the Robes, with which we were very successful as exhibitors. Later we bred such notable dogs as Alliance, Coastguard, Jack Tar (now the property of Mr. S. Cameron, of Melbourne), Armada, Sea Nymph and many others. We also brought out a young dog, Pirate King (bred by Mrs. Lee, and a son of Courtier), which soon became a champion, and passed into the hands of Mr. W. Paterson, of Glasgow. Mrs. Mansfield has had other excellent dogs, notably

one called Piermaster, by Hematite from Lady Mayoress II. Probably the most successful litter of Newfoundlands bred in Mrs. Mansfield's kennel was one by Boodles Esq. out of Lady Mayoress II., which contained the well-known winners Triumph, Merry Maiden, Merry Peeress, and Cantsfield Velvet. Triumph and Merry Maiden, besides other successes, each won the Newfoundland Club's thirty-five guinea challenge cups as the best of each sex at the last Crystal Palace Show. A few months ago Mrs. Dickson, of Shelsey Court, near Worcester, purchased the whole of Mrs. Mansfield's kennel, which included, besides the dog and bitch above named, Merry Mariner, Sea Nymph, Yachtsman, and Merry Princess—all prize winners."

Perhaps the variety of Newfoundland dog best known to the general public is that black and white in colour, distinguished as the Landseer Newfoundland, in honour of the great animal painter of that name, one of whose happiest works has already been alluded to. However, the Newfoundland Club, which, I suppose, has the management of such things, in order that good specimens which may be brown in colour or black with a little white on their chests or feet are not debarred from competition, classify the "Landseers" under the heading of "any other than black." The

"Landseer" proper would be, when properly marked, a black headed dog with a broad strip of white down the face, some white on the cheeks, and a body more or less patched with black. Such are handsome dogs, and a few years ago, before shows were so firmly established as they are now, the black and white Newfoundlands were more commonly seen than the ordinary black variety. Mr. Mansfield writes of them as follows :

"They have not made such progress as the blacks for the simple reason that breeders of this variety will not go to the black dogs to improve the coat and type of their black and whites. They appear to completely ignore the fact that the qualification is not simply a black and white dog with handsome white markings. The marking is a very tenth rate consideration. First and foremost it is necessary in the class for 'other than black Newfoundlands' that to be successful the competitor should be, though black and white, exactly of the shape, make, and character of a good black specimen. Then, and then only, must come the question of colour and markings. Of course, other things being equal, a well marked dog should have the preference. The majority of the dogs in this division are bad in coat, which often resembles the wool on the back of a Shropshire sheep ; they generally fall off in their

hindquarters, being tucked up in the loin and leggy, and lack quality and type. By perseverance these failings could be remedied by judiciously crossing with black dogs of the right type. The late Mr. Farquharson's Rosebud was a beautiful specimen of a white and black Newfoundland; in fact, on her first appearance she beat all the black bitches at a Kennel Club Show. She was almost white, and was by Trojan, a black dog with white chest and feet, out of Leda, a bitch similarly marked. Mrs. King's Kettering Laddie, Mr. Simpson's Countess of Canonbury, Mr. Higham's St. George, Mr. Gardner's Pirate Chief, Lady Tollemache's Kettering Wonder, Mr. Dickman's Merry Boy, Mr. H. Y. Musgrave's His Nibs, and Dr Jollye's Lincoln Aitee are amongst the best specimens of 'Landseer' Newfoundlands now being shown, or, as they are called, 'other than black.'" Mr. Mansfield proceeds:

"Returning to the Newfoundland generally, sometimes a brown or bronze pup will be produced, but this is of rare occurrence. I have never had one from a pure Nelson I. and Courtier strain, but have on several occasions had such from the Leo blood.

"With regard to rearing puppies, the most ticklish time for them is during whelping, and up to ten days

old. A practice I adopt is to have a hamper ready, with clean, soft straw in the bottom, and as each puppy is whelped it is placed in this hamper in front of a fire, always leaving one with the bitch, but before removing into the hamper it is always put to suck. By this means the whole lot are kept dry and warm, and the bitch is not hampered with a heap of whining puppies round her. For seven to ten days they are thus kept in hampers, being put to the bitch every hour, night and day. It is rarely by doing this (which of course means trouble) that a puppy is lost, and they thrive well. If left to take their chance some die from cold, others are laid on and killed. For many years I have carried out the above plan with great success. At the end of a month they should be fed with milk, with sugar and water added. At six weeks I feed them on raw paunches cut up small, and they rarely get anything else for the remainder of their existence in my kennels. I believe in raw meat for dogs, it is their natural food, and it will never harm them or make them savage."

The Newfoundland Club, established in 1886, is a representative body, and the following is the description it has issued of the Newfoundland dog:

*"Symmetry and General Appearance.*—The dog should impress the eye with strength and great

activity. He should move freely on his legs with the body swung loosely between them, so that a slight roll in gait should not be objectionable, but at the same time a weak or hollow back, slackness of the loins, or cowhocks, should be a decided fault.

“*Head.*—Should be broad and massive, flat on the skull, the occipital bone well developed ; there should be no decided stop, and the muzzle should be short, clean cut, and rather square in shape, and covered with short fine hair.

“*Coat.*—Should be flat and dense, of a coarsish texture and oily nature, and capable of resisting the water. If brushed the wrong way it should fall back into its place naturally.

“*Body.*—Should be well ribbed up with a broad back. A neck strong, well set on to the shoulders and back, and strong, muscular loins.

“*Fore Legs.*—Should be perfectly straight, well covered with muscle, elbows in but well let down, and feathered all down.

“*Hind Quarters and Legs.*—Should be very strong ; the legs should have great freedom of action, and a little feather. Slackness of loins and cowhock are a great defect. Dew claws are objectionable and should be removed.

“*Chest.*—Should be deep and fairly broad and



well covered with hair, but not to such an extent as to form a frill.

“*Bone.*—Massive throughout, but not to give a heavy, inactive appearance.

“*Feet.*—Should be large and well-shaped. Splayed or turned-out feet are objectionable.

“*Tail.*—Should be of moderate length, reaching down a little below the hocks; it should be of fair thickness, and well covered with long hair, but not to form a flag. When the dog is standing still and not excited, it should hang downwards with a slight curve at the end; but when the dog is in motion it should be carried a trifle up, and when he is excited straight out with a slight curve at end. Tails with a kink in them, or curled over the back, are very objectionable.

“*Ears.*—Should be small, set well back, square with the skull, lie close to the head, and covered with short hair and no fringe.

“*Eyes.*—Should be small, of a dark brown colour, rather deeply set, but not showing any haw, and they should be rather wide apart.

“*Colour.*—Jet black. A slight tinge of bronze, or a splash of white on chest and toes is not objectionable.

“*Height and Weight.*—Size and weight are very desirable so long as symmetry is maintained. A fair

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average height at the shoulder is 27 inches for a dog, and 25 inches for a bitch, and a fair average weight is 100lb. and 85lb. respectively.

“OTHER THAN BLACK.

“Should in all respects follow the black except in colour, which may be almost any so long as it disqualifies for the black class, but the colours most to be encouraged are bronze, and black and white, beauty in markings to be taken greatly into consideration.

“ADDENDA TO ‘OTHER THAN BLACK.’

“Dogs that have been entered in black classes at shows, held under Kennel Club Rules, where classes are provided for dogs ‘other than black,’ shall not be qualified to compete in other than black classes in future.

“Black dogs that have only white toes and white breasts, and white tip to tail, are to be exhibited in the classes provided for ‘black.’”

The above description, which appears very complete, has evidently been compiled with great care, and by its aid and by what has previously been written those who yearn after knowledge as to the modern Newfoundland dog can have their aspirations gratified. It seems, indeed, almost a pity that the Newfoundland dog who has borne so

fair a character in the past has not reached a greater degree of popularity at the present time, when the canine race generally holds a higher position than it has previously done in the history of the British Isles.

The club has not issued any numerical scale of points, but these I should apportion as follows:—

	Value.		Value.
Head and expression ...	15	Stern .....	10
Neck and chest .....	10	Size.....	10
Back and loins .....	10	Symmetry and general	
Legs and feet .....	15	appearance .....	10
Coat and colour .....	20		
	—		—
	70		30

*Grand Total 100.*

Weight of dog, from 85lb. to 100lb.; of a bitch,  
75lb. to 85lb





## CHAPTER IV.

### THE COLLIE OR SHEEP DOG.

ALTHOUGH the "Scotch collie dog," as he is so often called, has for many generations been one of the favourite varieties of the canine race, his fondest admirers of fifty years ago could scarcely have expected him to have achieved the popularity which he possesses at the present time, and has held for some twenty years or more. He shares with the sprightly fox terrier the distinction of being the favourite dog of the people of the latter part of the nineteenth century. The St. Bernard has his admirers, so has the foxhound, but as neither is so suitable as a companion—the one on account of the size, the other for a variety of reasons, the collie and the fox terrier are likely to retain their good reputation for many years to come.

The sheep dog is usually called a "collie"; in reality a "collie" is an obsolete name for "such sheep as have black faces and legs," says the *Agricultural Dictionary*, published in 1743, where



it is spelled "colley" as it is sometimes even nowadays. As a fact, there is no rule for spelling the word, and as "colley" in many parts of the country is the name of a small fresh-water fish, the loach, the spelling "collie" for a sheep dog I take to be best.

Shakespeare uses the word in one or two instances with the meaning of dark or black, thus—

Brief as the lightning in the collied night.

The word collie is derived from the Anglo-Saxon "col," black, so the black-faced sheep of the North came to be called "colleys," and the dog that drove or preceded them came to be a colley dog. In due course the word "dog" was dropped, so, by easy transformation, "colley"—grown out of use as applied to the sheep—was adopted as a euphonious word for a variety of the dog, and so remains to this day. Bewick, the great wood engraver, calls this dog the "coaly."

But before Bewick gave us his charming illustrations the sheep dog or "shepherd's hound," *Canis pastoralis*, was held in esteem, and in the sixteenth century duly described by Dr. Caius who wrote :

Our shepherd's dog is not huge, and vast, and big, but of an indifferent stature and growth, because it has not to deal with the bloodthirsty wolf, since there be none in England . . . This dog, either at the hearing of his master's voice, or at the wagging of his fist, or at his shrill and hoarse whistling and

hissing, bringeth the wandering wethers and stray sheep into the self-same place where the master's will and work is to have them, whereby the shepherd reapeth the benefit, namely, that with little labour and no toil of moving his feet, he may rule and guide his flock according to his own desire, either to have them go forward or stand still, or to draw backward, or to turn this way, or take that way. For it is not in England as it is in France, as it is in Flanders, as it is in Syria, as it is in Tartary, where the sheep follow the shepherd, for here in our country the shepherd followeth the sheep, and sometimes the straying sheep, when no dog runs before them, nor goeth about and beside them, gather themselves into a flock, when they hear the shepherd whistle, for fear of the dog (as I imagine), remembering that (if unreasoning creatures may be reported to have memory) the dog commonly runneth out at his master's warrant, which is his whistle. This have we oftentimes marked when we have taken our journey from town to town; when we have heard a shepherd whistle we have reined in our horse and stood still a space to see the proof and trial of this matter. Furthermore, with the dog doth the shepherd take the sheep to slaughter and to be healed if they be sick, and no hurt or harm is done by the dogs to the simple creature.

The above is one of the oldest records we have of the working of sheep dogs, and it is interesting because it almost exactly corresponds with their duty at the present day.

It must not be forgotten that the sheep dogs of other countries, and probably of England when wolves and other wild beasts abounded, are and were much more ferocious and powerful creatures than our collies. The so-called Pyrenean guard dog we sometimes see on our show benches, is a dog

some one hundred and twenty pounds weight or more, roughish in coat, and with a docility of expression quite in keeping with the pastoral duties he has to perform, and with strength sufficient to grapple with a wolf successfully.

However, the largest type of foreign sheep dog I have met was one said to be from Thibet, and which was purchased from a traveller by a firm of live-stock importers in London, Messrs. Willson and Co., of Goodge-street, London, W. This was, perhaps, as tall a dog as I ever saw, measuring at the shoulders  $33\frac{3}{4}$  inches, and built proportionately. It was pale fawn in colour, with a close thick coat, inclined to be shaggy rather than smooth; his face was as kindly in expression as anyone would wish to see, and his appearance was not contrary to his nature, for he was a most affectionate dog. It was said at the time I had this dog brought to me, in 1892, that a similar animal was to be seen at the Jardin des Plantes, in Paris.

This big dog is alluded to here in order to show what I have stated, that, in other countries less civilized than our own, and where the flocks are likely to be disturbed by the attacks of various ferocious animals, the sheep dogs are of such a character as to be able to do full justice to their charges in the way of protection.

In Scotland, many of the oldest natives consider that the deerhound, the collie, and the Scottish terrier were one and the same animal originally; and in proof thereof point to the strange resemblance there is in the shape of head, expression, and ears of the three varieties. However, there is considerable difference in the colour and texture of the coats of the collie and the hard-haired terrier and the deerhound, the resemblance being between the two latter. Still, I have repeatedly seen types of the sheep dog with hard and wiry coats like that possessed by the deerhound, and something like five and twenty years ago, Mr. John Rigg, who then kept the Windermere Hotel, Westmoreland, had a capital specimen, one able to win prizes at the ordinary shows at that time. Later, I have seen two or three dogs of similar type, though not so good-looking, competing successfully at sundry of the north country field trials.

Of the collie at the early part of this century, the Rev. W. Bingley, in his "*British Quadrupeds*," gives us an animal almost identical in type with what we have now. The illustration in the "*Sportsman's Cabinet*" is an excellent specimen of the old English sheep dog, rough and hard in coat, tail "semi-bob," or maybe it has been cut, and with light-coloured eyes, that the artist, Reinagle, may have

intended to represent "wall" or "china" eyes, a feature often found in this strain of dog, and one that is not supposed to be any detriment to him on the show bench.

There is no doubt that our collie or sheep dog is one of the most useful of the canine race, and within the last quarter of a century he has likewise been made ornamental. The farmer and agriculturist can keep him without paying a licence to the State, as is the case with most other dogs, but care ought to be taken that the "unlicensed" sheep dog does not kill a rabbit or a hare, or assist his owner at a day's ferreting, else he at once becomes less distinctive, and, according to the law, seven shillings and sixpence ought to be paid for the honour and pleasure of keeping him.

Although now as much a fancy dog as a worker, and the two qualifications have not yet been combined to any great extent, the collie is still numerous in the north of England and Wales, where the sheep are small, wild, and active, and the shepherd seldom leaves home without his dog or dogs at his heels. There is a story told of a tourist making inquiry as to the number of persons who attended the little church in one of the mountainous portions of the Cumberland lake district. "Why," was the reply, "t' last Sunday thar war ten cur dogs liggin' in

't porch an' the churchyard," the inference to be deduced from the answer being that there were ten worshippers on the day in question, as each would be attended by his sheep dog—"cur," as he is usually locally known.

Such continued association between man and dog naturally tends to increase the sagacity and good sense of the latter, and so the shepherd's dog comes to be the most sensible of all dogs, but the animal kept for exhibition in this respect does not as a rule, approach his working cousins. Stories of the intelligence of the former are numerous.

There is that tale of the Cumberland sheep-stealer hanged at Carlisle. Accompanied by a sheep dog, he, in the daytime, frequented certain farms. Selecting sheep here and there, he pointed such out to his dog. At night the two went near the places, the dog was sent into the fields and drove out the sheep already chosen, which his dishonest master converted into mutton and then disposed of. Dogs have been known to drive sheep for many miles by themselves, and to distinguish between those that belonged to their master's flock and those of a neighbour's.

As to the sagacity of the show collie, Mr. Rumball, of Birmingham, a well-known admirer of the breed, had a good-looking specimen that could play



cards with considerable success. The common game of "Nap" was the one at which the dog excelled, and, indeed, he became so proficient as to be able to hold his own with anyone whom his owner challenged. I believe he played the game best when under the orders of Mr. F. Hinks, the well-known breeder of bull terriers, the sign by which it knew what cards to take, being a slight and almost imperceptible snap of the fingers. This dog, after being tried by a would-be purchaser, was sold to him for £25, on account of these accomplishments at cards.

There was a troupe of remarkably clever collies performing in London recently. These were all handsome sable and white dogs, doubtless bred from bench winners. After going through various leaping feats, walking whilst erect on their hind legs, on rolling barrels, skipping, &c., one of them pushed on to the stage a fire escape. This was placed against the wall of a house supposed to be on fire. A child in its night-dress rushed out of the window and down the escape; the dog then ascended the ladder, went in at the window, and shortly reappeared with a dummy baby in its mouth, with which it descended and placed in safety. The dog fell over on its side, evidently dead either through the smoke and fire or of its exertions. It was then

placed on a stretcher, and eventually two other collies came on to the scene pushing an ambulance in front of them. The "fireman's" dead dog was placed thereon, and, to the tune of the "Dead March" from the orchestra, the curtain fell as the ambulance was being wheeled off the stage. The trainer of the dogs, "Professor" Duncan, had done his work well, and, throughout, the performance was one of the best of its kind I ever saw.

But our Welsh friends had long before this found out how easily the collie could be trained and made useful for other purposes than tending sheep. They taught him to assist in the dairy, and some years ago it was not uncommon in the principality to see a couple of sheep dogs walking up a sort of inclined treadmill, with cross laths for steps, which was connected by a spindle with the churn, which they kept going much to the advantage of their owner. A friend of mine tells me that this practice of churning by dogs is still in vogue in the more remote districts, and Mr. R. J. Lloyd Price, of Rhiwlas, near Bala, writing not long ago, said he had just seen a "batch of butter produced by the indefatigable efforts of a couple of handsome black and tan collies."

Whilst alluding to Wales, it might be well to mention a so-called variety of the collie mentioned

by some writers as the "Welsh heeler." This is no special variety of the sheep dog at all, but any ordinary animal such as is used by shepherds, and more especially by drovers, the latter training him to bark and bite at the heels of cattle—hence the misleading name which has been given to him. Welsh collies may be described as of many shapes and sizes, but they are all of one and the same variety, and which is not indigenous to the Principality.

The first dog show which contained a class for sheep dogs was that at Birmingham in 1860, when the late Mr. W. Lort and the late Mr. J. H. Walsh ("Stonehenge") awarded the prize, which they gave to a "pure Scotch bitch," exhibited by Mr. W. Wakefield, of Hurley, Warwickshire, who thus had the honour of taking the first show bench award offered for a shepherd's dog. There were but five entries then, now it is not unusual to find over 100 entries at our modern shows, and at Liverpool in 1892 the total reached 260; whilst at Ayr, in Scotland, in the same year, no fewer than 395 entries were made. Several of the dogs, in both cases, competed in more than one class, but at the Scottish show there were 153 sheep dogs benched, and in 1893 the entries were 287, and the competitors 121. Since then these numbers, if not exceeded, have repeatedly been equalled.

Ten years after the institution of a class for collies at Birmingham, there were but fifteen entries, and in 1870 the second prize was awarded to a dog, Cockie, which the present generation will recollect as perhaps as good an all-round specimen of his race as was ever led into a show ring. He then belonged to Mr. W. White, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham, and I think, with very few exceptions, no modern collie of the prevailing type with any pretensions to excellence, is without some of the Cockie blood in his veins. He was not only a show dog but a worker, and that he looked both is manifest from the fact that he won prizes under shepherd judges and under the ordinary "circuit" judges alike.

He took the cup at Carlisle in 1870, in a very strong class, farmer judges making the awards, and they, as well as the spectators, said he was the best shepherd's dog they ever saw. Twelve years later, after some ups and downs, Cockie died peacefully at Great Bars, Birmingham, where he was well cared for by Mr. J. Bissel, who, a short time before, had purchased the poor dog for £10, this after he had been sold at a local mart for £3 only !

Other good collies of the earlier days of shows were Mr. J. Holmes' Bob, Mr. Henry Lacey's and Mr. John Henshall's Mec; Mr. C. W. Wilson's

Malcolm, and following them came Mr. S. E. Shirley's Shamrock. The latter was bred in the north of Ireland, but there is little doubt his ancestors came from Scotland; his sire is given as Mr. McCall's Shep; his dam Mr. C. Glasby's Bess. From Mr. Shirley's kennels also came Tricolour, Trefoil, and Hornpipe.

With the advent of the Cockie strain, and he formed a strain although his pedigree was unknown, and that of Mr. Shirley's, great improvement in the appearance of the collie became apparent. Trefoil was the sire of Mr. Bissel's Charlemagne (the most successful of all collies both at the stud and on the bench), from Maud, a daughter of Cockie's. The continuity of type handed down from these families, points to their purity in the first instance, and one may well wonder what our present collies would have been had Trefoil and Cockie never had existence, or their excellence have remained undiscovered.

Charlemagne, a sable and white in colour, made his first appearance in public at Curzon Hall in 1879, when, as a puppy, he received an honourable card only. Next year and for the four following years he won in his class, and took the challenge cup likewise, nor was he beaten until the dark black-and-tan Rutland lowered his colours in 1885. Charlemagne was not much shown, so for an old dog he

was comparatively fresh when he appeared at the Collie Club Show in Holborn, in February 1890, when he was once more given the prize as the best collie in the show. He died the following year, leaving behind a reputation as the most noteworthy collie of any time.

Rutland, the dog that beat Charlemagne, had been bred by the Rev. Hans Hamilton, and, after changing hands several times, was purchased by Mr. S. Boddington, of Birmingham, from the selling class at Warwick for £5, but just previously he had changed hands for half that sum. His new owner showed him well, and ultimately disposed of him to Mr. A. H. Megson, of Manchester, for £250. Rutland was one of the few dogs at this date with the small semi-erect ear, and was greatly used by breeders to obtain this property in the progeny.

From this time it seems that the collie gradually increased in money value, and, as I write, a matter of a couple of hundred pounds for a perfect specimen would be considered by no means out of the way. At Liverpool, in 1888, the gentleman who had bought Rutland paid £350 at auction for a young dog called Caractus, that his breeder and exhibitor, Mr. J. J. Steward, of near Rugby, had entered for £100 at the show then being held. This dog did little good afterwards, being rather coarse.



Again did Mr. Megson open his purse, on this occasion paying, it is said, £530 to Mr. Boddington, for Metchley Wonder, a dog that I had engraved for "The Collie or Sheep Dog," published by Horace Cox in 1890.

Such prices as the above have, however, been exceeded, for Mr. Megson paid £1000 or its equivalent for Southport Perfection, a dog which, although now, in 1898, is six years old, is able to hold his own with the best. The same gentleman paid £1200 and Edgbaston Marvel (which had cost him £500) to Mr. Stretch for Ormskirk Emerald, and this latter is the record price ever paid for a collie, and, I should say, for any dog; though prior to this Christopher made £1000, as mentioned below.

The Messrs. Stretch, of Ormskirk, have been peculiarly successful with their collies, having won the Breeders' Cup at the annual Collie Club Show for the most points throughout the classes for the last five years in succession; and, in addition to those bred by themselves, they have displayed excellent judgment in the purchase of others. From Mr. Hamilton they obtained Christopher, a sable dog that did so well, following the change of kennels, that Mr. Mitchell Harrison, of the United States, paid the equivalent (in other dogs and cash) of £1000 for this handsome son of

Metchley Wonder and Peggie II. Since then, Messrs. Stretch have sold individual dogs for several hundred pounds apiece—and, with one or two others, are considered about the most successful collie breeders of the present generation. They have had Ormskirk Emerald, already alluded to, Ormskirk Memoir, Ormskirk Ormond (sold for £700), Ormskirk Golddust (sold for £500), purchased by them from Mr. Astley for £100, who had claimed him for £50 at a small south country show, and many other dogs and bitches equally good. The extent of their kennels and the pitch to which collie breeding has reached, may be judged from the fact that it is said that during one year something like two hundred and fifty bitches visited Messrs. Stretch's dogs for stud purposes alone. And there are other notable kennels of collies at Manchester, Wishaw, N.B., near Stratford-on-Avon, and elsewhere, where results in a similar way, if not quite so extensive, are to the uninitiated somewhat astounding.

Whilst alluding to the prices of collies, I may say that the dogs have usually brought most money, still, sundry bitches have been sold for £200 apiece and more, Sweet Lassie, the dam of Ormskirk Amazement, holding the record price of £250, having been sold by Messrs. Stretch to Captain Heaton. Some of the best of this sex of late have

been Ormskirk Dolly, Bleachfield Wonder, Bertha, Portington Beauty, Lady Christopher, Sefton Grace, Matrimony, Parbold Phyllis, Ormskirk Memoir, Barwell Princess and Beatrice, Old Hall Queen, Carrick Alexander, Wishaw Mary, Mr. W. Wilson's Barcelona, Mrs. Armstrong's Mint, Marieville Marilla, Kilmeney Jess, Ormskirk Crystal, Clayton Blanche, but with such a number of high-class animals of both sexes now being shown it would be almost impossible to compile anything like a complete list. I must not omit to mention an extraordinary litter of puppies bred by Mr. W. H. Charles, of Wellesbourne, near Warwick, in 1897. It included Moreton Coroner, Wellesbourne Pride and Eunice, and Wellesbourne Chum, their dam being Long Eaton Magic, and their sire Wellesbourne Conqueror. In less than six months these four dogs won upwards of ninety prizes, under many different judges, Pride becoming a champion in that time. The latter was kept by her breeder; Coroner and Chum are the property of Mr. H. H. Jones, whilst Eunice is owned by the Countess of Warwick. This is probably the best litter of collies ever bred, though Mr. Stretch has been the owner of some good ones, and the late Mr. Bissel years ago had Charlemagne, Trevor, Flirt, and Elsie, all in the same litter.

But so many collies are bred for show purposes, that it is no wonder new faces of extraordinary merit appear to be cropping up every few months. Now, in 1898, there are, no doubt, more good collies on the bench—many of them young ones—than has previously been the case, and such dogs as the Rev. Hans Hamilton's Woodmansterne Conrad, Mr. R. Tait's Rightaway, Mr. J. Power's Barwell Masterpiece and Ringleader, Mr. R. Higson's Wellesbourne Conqueror, Mr. Wheeler's Portington Bar None, Mr. Megson's Ormskirk Emerald and Southport Perfection, Mr. Ainscough's Balgreggie Hope, and many others which could be mentioned, are quite equal to anything we have had in the past.

In addition to breeders and exhibitors already alluded to, the following have at one time and another obtained celebrity as owners of collies of special excellence, viz., H.R.H. the Princess of Wales; Mr. C. H. Wheeler, Birmingham; Mr. Morton Campbell, whose Stracathro Ralph (who died last year) was one of the best dogs of his day; Mr. R. Chapman, Glenboig; Mr. W. H. Charles, near Stratford-on-Avon; Mr. W. W. Thomson, Mitcham; Messrs. Birch, Seaforth; Mr. H. Ainscough, Parbold, Southport; Mrs. H. Panmure Gordon; Miss L. Harvey, near Perth; Mr. H.

Nimmo, Wishaw; Mr. B. R. Haigh, Portobello; Mr. M. H. Ashwen; Mr. Murray Wilson, Hawick; Mr. R. Tait, Wishaw, N.B.; the Rev. Hans Hamilton, Mr. R. Higson, Mr. C. Metcalf, Mr. A. Dunmore, Mr. W. H. Day, Mr. W. S. Spark, Mr. F. Barlow, Mr. Stanley Higgs, Captain Trollope, Messrs. Pollock, Mr. F. B. Craven, Mr. James Agnew, and others. Nor must Mr. W. Arkwright, of Sutton Scarsdale, be forgotten, who for a time gave attention to producing the extremely handsome "mirled" collies, many of which had the china or wall eyes. These dogs abounded in character, and it was to be regretted that when the contents of Mr. Arkwright's kennels were disposed of at Aldridge's the best dogs realised but small sums of money. Mr. F. Barlow, Balsall Heath, Birmingham, appears to be the one breeder now who pays special attention to the mirled or marbled variety.

How admirably the collie is adapted as a companion we all know, and his sagacity in that department of life for which nature intended him, is equally well known. He is a different dog now, when well attended and cared for, than he was when he had less value. The churlishness and snappishness, which were prevailing features, appear to have almost entirely disappeared, and he does not rush out of the farmyard and seize the passing wayfarer

by the calf of his leg, by the coat-tails, or elsewhere, as was once his habit. Constant association with his superiors has improved his disposition immensely, he has risen to the occasion and to his aristocratic surroundings, whilst his bark may now be taken to be quite as much a call of welcome as a cry of alarm or ill-temper. Moreover, there is nothing treacherous about the modern collie, as his detractors have stated to be the case, and properly brought up and trained, as all dogs ought to be, he will be found as faithful and good-natured a companion as a terrier or pug.

I am not here going to write several pages as to the change in the appearance of many of the prize collies which has been brought about through a craze for certain "points" or supposed excellences that are produced at the expense of others. This change is nothing new in other varieties of the dog. In the collie, unduly long heads, lean, narrow, and unintellectual, in many cases partaking of the greyhound type, or rather of that of the Borzoi or Russian wolf hound, have been sadly too prevalent. Indeed, these long-headed dogs were becoming so numerous that the cry raised against them has had due weight, and at the present time there are fewer collies with such abnormalities than was the case when the first edition of this book appeared. A collie of all



dogs should be sensible and sagacious. If he is so, he cannot in appearance be a fool—his character is stamped on his countenance—and some even recent winners on the bench could be mentioned whose narrow foreheads, big eyes, and general appearance were indicative of idiocy rather than of sagacity. Let us all hope, in our admiration for a noble dog, that what is said here and has been said elsewhere will prevent in the future a danger like this arising that might destroy the popularity of the collie.

Still more fault-finding. I do not know how it has been brought about, but somehow or other our collie in many cases arrives at maturity before he is out of his puppyhood—if such an expression may be used. At eight or nine months old he is well grown, his coat is profuse, if soft and fluffy, and he looks so well in the ring that the judge places him over older and better dogs. Still, he cannot gallop, he even walks badly, and when some eighteen months old or so, he has degenerated into a sorry object, and his show days are over. Few of the most successful dogs of modern times improve with age, as the old working collie and some of the earlier winners did. Note Charlemagne, already alluded to, who beat all comers when eleven years old. Cockie, his grandsire, was a better dog at four years old than when he was less than half that age.

Which dogs of the modern type will last so well as Mr. H. Ralph's Johnnie Norman, who, if grown a little thick in skull, was as full of collie character when we last saw him as he ever was. Someone stole this dog. Perhaps the five best of the modern type which lasted longest are or were Metchley Wonder, Stracathro Ralph, Ormskirk Emerald, Southport Perfection, and Wellesbourne Conqueror, the latter being a better dog now at three years old than when twelve months, whilst Perfection at six is quite as good as ever he was. And this is as it should be, breeding for an early maturity is all wrong and thoroughly mischievous so far as these dogs are concerned. With cattle, which are provided as food, matters are different. Of the hundreds of prize-winning collies now produced, with few exceptions their successes are but ephemeral, and it is quite as mischievous to breed for early maturity in a dog as it is to try and produce a head so abnormal in its length as to quite change the appearance of the unfortunate canine which carries it.

It must not, however, be taken for granted that the collie as he is now seen, obtaining valuable prizes at our kennel exhibitions, is the exact counterpart of the dog met with on the sheep farms, and without which the shepherd could not get through his

work. The former has been treasured for his beauty alone, and most likely for generations his ancestors had never known what it was to assist the farmer in his duties. So his descendants gradually drop out of the work, and when they do come to be trained, are not nearly so docile and intelligent as they would be had their progenitors been good workers.

We occasionally do see, at the various trials with sheep held in different parts of the country, a handsome dog that is a fairly good worker, but such is the exception, and I am sorry to write that, so far as the shepherd's work with the collie is concerned, the handsomest dogs are usually the worst workers—at any rate in public. It was, however, gratifying to find at the Llangollen Trials in 1893, and at similar meetings later on, one descended from bench winners proving successful. This dog, Mr. R. S. Piggin's Ormskirk Charlie, won the all-aged stake there in excellent style, beating pretty well all the cracks in the country, and afterwards was awarded the special prize as the handsomest dog on the ground. Ormskirk Charlie, bred by Mr. Richard Thornton, of Winmarleigh, Lancashire, is by Christopher from Prim of Winmarleigh. The dam of Charlie was a good working bitch, and her pedigree goes back to the Trefoil blood on one side. Her owner considered Prim of Nateby, her grand-

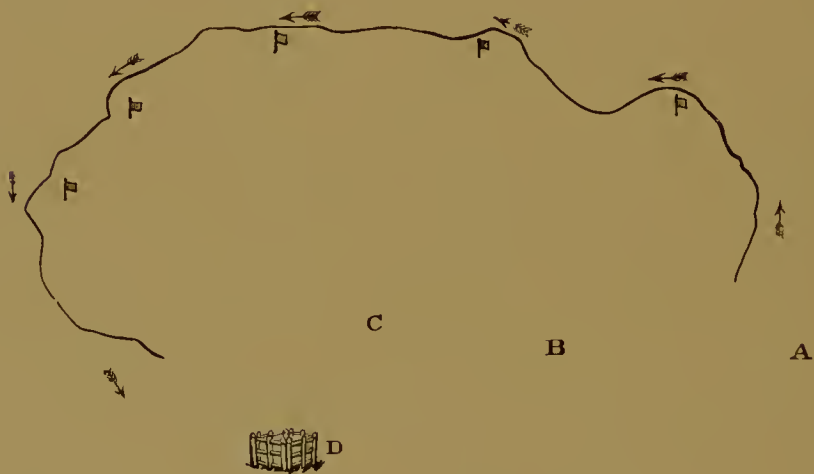
dam, as all round one of the best working bitches in Lancashire, being equally good with sheep and cattle. With the latter her intelligence was such that, when sent to bring in the cows to milk, she always separated the young from the old stock without assistance. Evidently Charlie has inherited some of her cleverness.

The collie has had several clubs established to promote his beauty and his popularity, and that they have been successful in so doing goes without saying. Such clubs have hitherto been sadly negligent as to the working merits of the dog, and any improvement that of late years may be noted in the latter must be set down to these associations in Wales, the North of England, and elsewhere, that annually hold competitive trials. The first meeting of the kind took place at Bala in North Wales in 1873, and since that time such have been of annual occurrence, and in some districts they are received with great favour by the farmers and the shepherds.

No more interesting sight can be imagined than on a fine day to see a number of highly-trained shepherds' dogs one after another driving a little flock of sheep in a perfect manner. The country air is bracing and healthy on the hill sides, all the surroundings of the gathering are thoroughly rural and invigorating, and the good humour of the

owners of the competitors appears in marked contrast to the jealousies so often present at competitions of other kinds. In 1889, on a Royal visit to Wales, Her Majesty expressed extreme gratification with the working of the Welsh dogs that were given a trial in honour of the occasion.

As something ought to be said as to the management of such trials, I cannot do better than quote



from what I have already written on the subject, and which will be found more fully described in Chapter VI. of the "Collie or Sheep Dog," and already alluded to.

"The arrangements are simplicity itself, and with two or three good managers undertaking the work in hand, the cost of the preliminaries is not great. In the first instance, suitable ground is to

found. Of necessity this need not be in one field, but must be of an extent—of say, extending in one direction about half to three-quarters of a mile by about a quarter of a mile in breadth. From a note made by me at the time, I find that at the trials held at Gilsland, near Carlisle, in 1885, the dogs had to drive their sheep something over 800 yards, and the trial ground covered about 90 acres. The latter, of course, not including the portions occupied by the spectators. Here, on the wild, bleak fells of Cumberland, the space to be obtained was almost unlimited. As circumstances occur, these estimates may be extended or decreased at will. Having secured such suitable ground, the next thing is to draw out a plan denoting the course over which the dogs have to drive their sheep, the positions where the worker of the dog, the judges, and officials are to stand, the location of the spectators, and the place where the pen is erected into which the competitors have to drive their flocks.

“The course is indicated by a succession of flags placed at intervals, on the far side of which the dogs drive the sheep, the time occupied and the manner in which the work is done being placed to the credit or otherwise of the competitors. The sketch on the opposite page will assist to convey an idea as to a plan of the ground.



"The sheep are liberated near A, the shepherd standing at B sends his dog to the sheep, which are to be driven in the direction indicated by the arrows on the far side of the flags to D, a pen of hurdles into which the sheep have to be driven. The judges and officials stand at C, a position from which they can observe all the work.

"This trial ground should not be level like a race-course; it is better more or less undulating; with a footpath or two running across; a dry burn or ghyll to pass over; a gap or opening in a hedge or fence to be driven through. Roughish land is best of all, even if it lay along a hill side, a commencement of the task being to drive the sheep up the incline, and away from the shepherd. Then along the outside or far side of the flags to the boundary flag, which must be properly rounded, and so on the far side of other flags on the return journey, to three hurdles forming a pen, with the fourth hurdle away, leaving an opening. Through the latter the little flock has to be sent, the worker of the dog being allowed to assist as he likes, without, however, touching the sheep. Until now the shepherd has worked his collie from the spot where it was originally let loose, and sent to find the sheep which had been separated from a flock inclosed and out of sight. Were the whole of the sheep in view of those to be driven

the latter would make back to them, and totally refuse to be taken as intended.

“As to the sheep: These ought to be either of the Welsh breed, the black or of some grey-faced Scotch variety, or Herdwicks, taken from various flocks. Each dog drives three different sheep, two being from one farm, and the third from another. This arrangement makes the task more difficult, the sheep not knowing each other, and when one breaks away, considerable skill is required to get it to its companions again. Sometimes the latter cannot be done, so the worker of the dog, by whistling, calling, or by movements of the arms, lets his favourite know that the two must be driven to the one. This may prove successful, and by order the sagacious collie continues his task. Possibly the sheep may run away entirely, and, followed by the competitor, gallop until the latter is out of sight and out of hearing too. Then, after a tedious wait of a quarter of an hour or more, in the far distance the three sheep and their canine driver may be seen, the latter bringing his charge back to his owner, irrespective of course to be followed, or anything else. All he knows is that his duty is to fetch the sheep, and this he does.

“Another difficulty comes when one of the three sheep cannot move as fast as the others, and, being

hard pushed, ultimately gives up entirely and lies down; in which case the best dog in the world cannot make it rise again until thoroughly rested and so inclined. One batch of sheep may almost of themselves go the course, and require little driving by the dog, whilst *au contraire*, another lot may be just as stupid and wayward, willing to be taken in any direction but the right one. Sometimes the collie is unable to make a start at all through his perverse flock separating and trotting away in different directions immediately they are loosed from the liberation pen. Again the competitor may perform his driving task admirably, but is quite unable to consummate his work of making the sheep enter the pen at the end of the trial. Repeatedly at this penning the best work is shown, and the patience of the dog must be well supported by that of the shepherd.

“To be successful at these trials the dog must be sagacious, well trained, quick of hearing, and sharp in his sight, patient, and have a peculiar power in commanding his sheep. That some collies possess the latter important qualification to a greater degree than others I am confident, and, although there is a considerable amount of good or bad fortune in obtaining an easy, or the reverse,

batch of sheep, still the very best dogs appear to make even the most stupid little "Welshman" or "Scotchman" know that no larking will be allowed, and that they must go exactly where the dog wishes. This is a power similar to that possessed by some men over animals—the performer in the menagerie over his lions or tigers to wit—and in breeding collies for working, I should certainly use those dogs which possessed this extraordinary and unusual gift to the greatest extent. A barking dog is useless at such meetings, and one that loses its temper, rushes at and attempts to bite his sheep is equally (or sooner) put out of the stake.

"In training or practising a collie for work of this kind, care must be taken that the lessons are given in both directions, *i.e.*, the dog be taught to work from left to right and *vice versa*. I have seen an otherwise good dog make a wretched performance when it came to compete on a course which lay in a direction contrary to that in which its early lessons had been given. The most difficult thing to teach is to make your dog drive the sheep away from you—any duffer almost will bring them up to you, but taking them away altogether for half a mile or so up to a certain point, and then turning them towards the home journey, requires great skill, more so

than is required at the pen when the trial is terminating."

So much for trials with sheep, which I should like to see adopted in every county, under proper and reasonable management and conditions. But I do not like the rule which is in force in many places, where the shepherd working his dog is compelled to hold a rope in his hand, which allows him to go so far and no further, under pain of disqualification. If without such a silly rule a committee cannot make the handler keep within a prescribed area, they are certainly not fit to occupy the position they are supposed to so well grace.

At the Llangollen meetings classes are provided in which the shepherd has to work a brace of dogs together. Two lots of sheep are first gathered, then separated again, the one lot of three, marked with "ruddle," having to be first secured, then the other lot, which numbers half a dozen, are to be driven within the hurdles in a similar manner. Personally I have not seen such interesting work when the two run together as I have done when each dog works separately.

In some parts of France sheep dog competitions are held on a much more extensive scale than is the case in this country, they being instituted by a club

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which was formed three or four years ago "for the amelioration of the condition of the shepherd dogs, and for the encouragement of the shepherds." Moreover they receive the support of the French Government, whose Minister of Agriculture gives the leading prize, which consists of a diploma of merit and a monetary consideration to the value of about four guineas. The trials are of three kinds, the most important being that in which the dog has to drive a flock of twenty-five sheep over a certain course of about 330 yards in extent and about  $6\frac{1}{2}$  yards wide. The course has certain obstacles therein, and certainly the test is much more difficult than that the English dogs have to undergo. The second competition is much of the same character, whilst for the third a move has to be made from the country to the railway station, where the competing dog is required to drive a flock of fifty sheep into a truck. It is said that on one occasion the successful competitor drove his sheep from the starting point safely into the truck, twenty-two yards away, in thirty-two seconds. These French sheep dogs are of two kinds, the one smooth-coated and larger and heavier than the English smooth collie, the other rough or shaggy-coated, not unlike our old English bob-tailed variety, excepting that the French dog has his tail intact and of the ordinary length. This



rough dog is known as the "Brie," the smooth as the "Beauce," these names being taken from those of the districts from which the dogs originally came, and in which they are now mostly kept. It would be interesting to see some of these French dogs here.

As to the points and description of the collie, both the Collie Club of England and the Collie Club of Scotland, have formulated their own scales and descriptions, and as they differ somewhat, both are reproduced here.

#### THE ENGLISH CLUBS' STANDARD.

*The Skull* should be flat, moderately wide between the ears, and gradually tapering to the eyes. There should be only a slight depression at stop. The width of skull necessarily depends upon the combined length of skull and muzzle, and the whole must be considered in connection with the size of the dog. The cheek should not be full or prominent.

*The Muzzle* should be of fair length tapering to the nose, and must not show weakness or be snipy or lippy. Whatever the colour of the dog may be the nose must be black.

*The Teeth* should be of good size, sound and level, very slight unevenness is permissible.

*The Jaws* should be clean cut and powerful.

*The Eyes* are a very important feature and give

expression to the dog; they should be of medium size, set somewhat obliquely, of almond shape, and of a brown colour except in the case of "merles," when the eyes are frequently (one or both) blue and white or china; expression full of intelligence, with a quick alert look when listening.

*The Ears* should be small and moderately wide at the base, and placed not too close together on top of the skull, nor too much to the side of head. When in repose they should be usually carried thrown back, but when on the alert brought forward and carried semi-erect, with tip slightly drooping in an attitude of listening.

*The Neck* should be muscular, powerful, and of fair length, and somewhat arched.

*The Body* should be rather long, with well sprung ribs, chest deep, fairly broad behind the shoulders, which should be sloping, loins slightly arched and powerful. The dog should be straight in front.

*The Fore-legs* should be straight and muscular, neither in nor out at elbows, with a fair amount of bone; the forearm somewhat fleshy, the pasterns showing flexibility without weakness.

*The Hind-legs* should be muscular at the thighs, clean and sinewy below the hocks, with well bent stifles.

*The Feet* should be oval in shape, soles well

padded, and the toes arched and close together. The hind feet less arched, hocks well let down and powerful.

*The Brush* should be moderately long, carried low when the dog is quiet, with a slight upward "swirl" at the end, and may be gaily carried when the dog is excited, but not over the back.

*The Coat* should be very dense, the outer coat harsh to the touch, the inner or under coat soft, furry, and very close, so close as to almost hide the skin. The mane and frill should be very abundant, the mask or face smooth, as also the ears at the tips, but they should carry more hair towards the base; the fore legs slightly feathered, the hind legs above the hocks profusely so, but below the hocks fairly smooth, although all heavily coated collies are liable to grow a slight feathering. Hair on the brush very profuse.

*Colour.* Immaterial.

*General Character.* A lithe active dog, his deep chest showing lung power, his neck strength, his sloping shoulders and well bent hocks indicating speed, and his expression high intelligence. He should be a fair length on the leg, giving him more of a racy than a cloddy appearance. In a few words a collie should shew endurance, activity, and intelligence, with free and true action.

*Size and Weight.* Dogs 22in. to 24in. at the

shoulders, bitches 20in. to 22in. Dogs 45lb. to 65lb., bitches 40lb. to 55lb.

The smooth collie only differs from the rough in its coat, which should be hard, dense, and quite smooth.

*Faults.* Domed skull, high peaked occipital bone, heavy, pendulous or prick ears, weak jaws, snipy muzzle, full staring or light eyes, crooked legs, large flat or hare feet, curly or soft coat, cow hocks, and brush twisted or carried right over the back, under or over shot mouth.

The above description was adopted at a meeting of the Collie Club, held in October, 1898, and at the same time it was decided not to issue a table of the numerical value of points. However, the "points" as originally adopted by the club and published in an earlier edition of this volume, I think it well to give, and they are as follows :

SCALE OF POINTS.

	Value.		Value.
Head and expression	15	Back and loins .....	10
Ears .....	10	Brush .....	5
Neck and shoulders ...	10	Coat with frill .....	20
Legs and feet .....	15	Size.....	5
Hindquarters .....	10		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	60		40

Grand Total 100.

## THE SCOTTISH CLUB'S STANDARD.

## ROUGH-COATED.

*Head* moderately long in proportion to the dog's size, covered with short, soft hair. Skull flat, moderately wide between the ears, and gradually tapering to the eyes. There should be a very slight elevation of the eyebrows and very little stop.

*Muzzle* of fair length, tapering to the nose, which, whatever the colour of the dog, should be black. The teeth, which are white and of good size, should not be over nor undershot. Both are faults, the latter the greater of the two.

*Eyes*, of fair size, but not prominent, are placed rather close together, and set obliquely in the head, which gives that cunning foxy expression so characteristic of the breed. Colour, any shade of brown, the darker the better, yellow eyes being a great fault. Dogs of a mired colour should have a mired or china eye, and sometimes both eyes are of this colour.

*Ears* small, placed rather close together at the top of the head, covered with short soft hair, and carried semi-erect when at attention ; at other times thrown back, and buried in the frill.

*Neck* long, arched and muscular.

*Body* rather long than short, ribs well rounded,

chest deep and narrow in front, but of fair breadth behind the shoulders, which should be oblique. Loin rather long, and slightly arched, showing power.

*Legs.*—Forelegs straight and muscular, with a fair amount of flat bone, the fore-arm moderately fleshy, the hind legs less fleshy, very sinewy, and hocks well bent. Pasterns long and light in bone. Feet oval in shape, the soles well padded, and the toes well arched and close.

*Tail,* moderately long, carried low when the dog is quiet, gaily when excited, and almost straight out when running.

*Coat.*—This is a very important point. The coat, except on the head and legs, should be abundant, the outer coat harsh to the touch, the inner coat soft and furry, and very close, so close that it is difficult on parting the hair to see the skin. The hair very abundant round the neck and chest; this is termed the frill. The mask is smooth, the fore-legs slightly feathered, the hind-legs below the hocks smooth. Hair on tail very profuse, and on the hips long and bushy.

*Colour.*—Any colour.

*Size.*—Dogs 21in. to 24in. at shoulder, bitches 2in. less.

*Weight.*—Dogs 45lb. to 60lb., bitches 40lb. to 50lb.



*General Appearance.*—A lithe active dog, with no useless timber about him, his deep chest showing strength, his sloping shoulders, and well-bent hocks speed, and his “bawsint” face high intelligence. The face should bear a sharp, doubtful expression. As a whole, he should present an elegant and pleasing outline, quite distinct from any of our other domesticated breeds, and show great strength and activity.

*Faults.*—Domed skull, high peaked occipital bone, heavy pendulous ears, full soft eyes, heavily feathered legs, short tail.

#### SCALE OF POINTS.

	Value.		Value.
Head .....	15	Legs and feet.....	15
Eyes .....	5	Tail.....	5
Ears .....	10	Coat .....	20
Neck and shoulders ...	10	Size and general ap-	
Body .....	10	pearance .....	10
	—		—
	50		50

*Grand Total 100.*

## CHAPTER V.

### THE SMOOTH-COATED SHEEP DOG.

THIS variety of the collie has mostly been produced in the North of England. Being less cumbersome in formation than the dog previously written about, it is better adapted for work on many of the hills, especially those where rocks and rough stones are more plentiful than heather and bent grass. The smooth sheep dog is a most active animal. I have seen one that could catch a hare single handed, and in intelligence and sagacity he is quite equal to his rough-coated cousin. Some smooth-coated collies make excellent drovers' dogs, and, at the time of writing, one of the very best cattle dogs in the London markets is a smooth sheep dog with half of its tail cut off.

One of the first dog shows to provide a class for this variety was the gathering that annually takes place at Darlington. This was in 1870, and from that time until the present the best classes of smooth dogs are to be found there. The farmers round

about prefer him to any other, and in the Weardale district many homesteads have their own strain, which, as well as being good-looking, are second to none in the performance of their duties with sheep. In Northumberland and in the districts both sides the Border, smooth collies are to be found in abundance, and when a specially good specimen appears at any of our southern shows, it may be taken for granted that it originally came from the North.

Perhaps the smooth collie would be more popular were he less difficult to breed to perfection. In some strains the trouble comes in getting the coats sufficiently smooth, especially in many of the black and white Northumbrian dogs, that appear to me to form almost a distinct variety. The black on such specimens has a tendency to appear blue when seen in a certain shade, the coat is rather longer and more open than is actually desirable, and there should not be even the slightest tinge of tan or brown—a blue-black dog with more or less white on his breast, neck and feet. From time to time Messrs. Hastie, of Newcastle, have shown excellent specimens of this strain, which they usually purchased in the northern cattle markets they are in the habit of attending.

One of the very best smooth collies I ever saw appeared at some of the local shows in Westmoreland about twenty years ago. This was a peculiarly

coloured brown bitch with a natural bob-tail. She belonged to a butcher, and was quite as good in work with either cattle or sheep as her appearance would imply. No sheep dog I know now, had nearly the character or expression she possessed. Mr. W. W. Thomson about the same time had an excellent black, white, and tan called Yarrow; Mr. T. Swinburne's Lassie was another good one of similar type. Then Mr. W. Arkwright had a bitch called Melody, which many good judges considered the best of her race, and Mr. E. Hutton, of Pudsey, near Leeds, had from time to time animals of this variety above the average in quality. More recently Mr. A. H. Megson has had some good specimens, including Heatherfield Tip, by many persons considered the best of his variety ever shown; Veto is another good dog in the same kennels, and Mr. A. Dunmore's Village Girl is about as good as anything, being shown at the time of writing this; she is a black, tan, and white in colour, but to my mind the handsomest smooths are those "mirled" or "marbled" in colour, with "china" or wall eyes. This colour is sometimes intermixed with brown, giving an almost tortoiseshell-like appearance which, if rather odd, is extremely pleasing to the eye. An impression prevails in some localities that the vision of these "wall" or "china" eyes is stronger and

more powerful than in the eyes of ordinary colour, and that they never contract cataract or ophthalmia or other diseases of the optics. Maybe this is an "old wife's tale," and its truth or otherwise will be difficult to determine, at any rate I can say that I have not hitherto come across any china-eyed dog that had any particular disease of the eyes. The best "mirled" specimens have been owned by Mr. H. Mapplebeck, whose Fan was for a long time quite invincible on the show bench; and the late Dr. James, Mr. John Powers, Mr. Megson, Mr. F. Hurst, Heatherfield, Knutsford, Mr. T. Wallace, Mr. A. Hastie, and Mr. T. Hall, have, perhaps, had the best collections of smooth-coated collies ever brought together.

Quite as intelligent as his rough-coated cousin, he is less popular because he is more difficult to produce in perfection, and when produced is not worth so much money. A County Court judge not long ago awarded only £10 as damages for the loss of a dog which, by his intelligence, had probably saved his owner's life, and had young Gough when he was lost on Helvellyn had such a sensible animal with him, instead of a common little terrier, whose stupidity has been immortalized in verse, perhaps neither Wordsworth nor Scott's pathetic poems would ever have been written.

Mr. Ridley, a young farmer of Wolsingham, in Durham, was out on the fells looking after the sheep. Unfortunately he slipped and broke his leg. In great agony and unable to move, he lay at the foot of a crag for a considerable time in the expectation of someone approaching who could hear his cries and so render assistance. No one came. His faithful bitch Lassie lay by his side. Night was coming on; the young farmer thought it would be unpleasant and dangerous to lay out on the fells all night, so he attached a note to his dog's neck and bid her "Away home, Lassie." Although several miles from the farm, Lassie required no second order, and quickly was making a great to-do in the kitchen. Then the paper on her neck was noticed, and in due course assistance was sent to the injured farmer, who was rescued from an exposure that might have caused his death. And when Lassie, who was a show dog as well as a sensible creature, was stolen from some small exhibition, whose secretary was sued for her loss, the County Court judge gave Mr. Ridley £10 as the full value of his dog. The original claim of £50 was, I take it, under the circumstances, an extremely moderate one.

At the most recent dog show held at Newcastle quite a sensation was caused when a couple of



smooth-coated collies were claimed at their catalogue price of £30, whilst at the same exhibition £100 given for a rough-coated dog was taken as a matter of course. The highest priced smooth I can call to mind is Ormskirk Merlin, which Messrs. Stretch sold to Mr. Sam Woodiwiss for £60.

The smooth-coated collie differs only from the rough variety in coat, which in the former should be hard, dense, and quite smooth. In judging care must be taken that the prizes are awarded to really "smooth or short-coated" animals that have no long hairs or feathers on their hind quarters and stern. I fancy it is there and on the neck that the cross with the rough-coated dog would become most apparent; and instances have been known where attempts have been made to win prizes in classes devoted to the smooth variety with rough-coated specimens in the process of "moulting," assisted by the trimming operations of their owners. A smooth-coated tri-colour is a handsome companion, though unfortunately not a fashionable one, as the formation of a club a year or two ago to look after its interests appears to have done no good whatever, and it remains to be seen whether a new club recently formed will be of any material advantage in popularising this somewhat neglected variety of the dog.

In 1898 a club was formed to look after the interests of this variety of the collie, and it has recently issued the following description and points by which it has to be judged :

“ *Head*.—Should be in proportion to dog’s size ; skull moderately wide between the ears, and flat, tapering to the end of the muzzle, which ought to be of a fair length, but not too snipy, with only a slight stop.

“ *Teeth*.—Strong and white. The top jaw fitting nicely over the lower, and where much over or at all undershot, it should count against the dog.

“ *Eyes*.—Of almond shape, set obliquely in the head, and the shade consistent with the colour of the dog. A full or staring eye is very objectionable.

“ *Ears*.—Small, and when the dog’s attention is attracted, carried semi-erect ; but when in repose it is natural for them to be laid back.

“ *Neck*.—Long and well arched, and shoulders muscular and sloping.

“ *Back*.—Rather long, strong, and straight, the loin slightly arched, and the chest fairly deep but not too wide.

“ *Fore Legs*.—Straight and muscular, with a fair amount of bone. The hind legs should be rather wide apart, with stifle well bent, forming sickle-hocks.

" *Feet*.—Compact, knuckles well sprung, claws strong and close together, pads cannot be hard.

" *Coat*.—Short, dense, flat coat, with good texture, with an abundance of overcoat.

" *Symmetry*.—The dog should be of fair length on the leg, and his movements active and graceful.

" *Height*.—Dogs, 22in. to 24in. ; bitches, 20in. to 22in.

" *Tail*.—Of medium length, and when the dog is standing quietly, should be slightly raised, but more so when excited."

#### SCALE OF POINTS.

	Value.		Value.
Head .....	25	Legs and feet.....	15
Ears .....	15	Coat .....	25
Body .....	15	Tail .....	5
	—		—
	55		45

*Grand Total 100.*





## CHAPTER VI.

### THE OLD ENGLISH (BOB-TAILED) SHEEP DOG.

OF late years there has been a strong and successful attempt to re-popularise this quaint and representative creature, a dog that always reminds me of one of our shaggy ancient British forefathers as we see him in picture books. The collie clubs refused to acknowledge the old English sheep dog as one of their special race, so it has the honour of having a club of its own formed by the ardent admirers of the variety who believe there is no other dog in existence with even half the good qualities possessed by their special fancy.

A useful animal in his way, with a certain amount of rugged, unpolished beauty, his disposition is often surly, he frequently prefers a fight to his ordinary agricultural duties, and although a faithful companion to his master, is likely to be ill-tempered with strangers, and will not stand quietly and be rebuked by others. Still, like the ordinary collie he appears



to have been amenable to discipline and to improve in society, for I fancy that since his popularity his disposition is better than it was, and he is peculiarly kind and amiable, especially to those he knows.

Possibly he is an older dog than the ordinary collie, nor has modern fashion as yet changed him so much as it has other dogs. Reinagle's picture in the "Sportsman's Cabinet" published very early in the present century, is a capital example of what the dog is to-day, and such a one as there portrayed, would now, if alive and in the flesh, take the highest honour at any of our leading shows.

In Scotland there is an old-fashioned sheep dog of the same sort called the "Highland or Bearded Collie," and although he is by no means common, classes are sometimes provided for him at local shows, and they usually attract a considerable entry. I certainly agree with the author of the "Dogs of Scotland," when he says that the two varieties as found in Scotland and England are identical, and if the former is usually seen with a long tail, it is only because his owners have refused to amputate it in order that it might have a so-called "bob-tail."

It has been said that the variety of old English sheep dog was originally of Welsh extraction; wherein the principality he was known as the "Welsh heeler," obtaining this name by the habit common to

him of attacking the heels of the obstreperous cattle he may be driving. However, the indigenous Welsh dog is a little smooth-coated, mired or tortoiseshell-coloured, wall-eyed creature, smart and active for the work on the hills, where the heavy, cumbersome, "bob-tail" would be out of place. As proof of the alleged Welsh origin of the bob-tail, it has been adduced that Mr. R. J. Lloyd Price, at Rhiwlas, Bala, has had a strain on his estates for some generations. So he had, but unfortunately for the argument of those who say the true Bob-tail is Welsh bred, such dogs were originally brought from the Southdowns, in Sussex, by Mr. Edward Lloyd, grandfather to the present Rhiwlas squire.

As a fact, the old English sheep dog is pretty common in almost every county in England, though it is oftenest found as the dog of the farm in the Midland and Southern counties, and as assistant to the drover in the Metropolitan and other cattle markets of our large centres. He is an excellent cow dog—not so good for sheep, and were the latter to turn and face him and stamp their little feet in anger at his shaggy face, as the Welsh and Scotch sheep often will do, quite as likely as not the "bob-tail" would use his teeth on the foolish creatures. In no degree has he the patience of

the true collie, an attribute in which the latter excels above all others of the canine race.

One of the peculiarities of these dogs is that many of them are bred either without tails at all or with very short tails—tails ready docked in order to save them from the pain of the mutilating process which their owners would have to undergo. It has been considered that these puppies born without tails are the purest bred, but this is another fallacy, for both puppies with tails and puppies without tails are usually produced in the same litter. Then other admirers of the race say that they can tell a natural bob-tailed dog from one that has been "curtailed," by the manner in which the former "wags his hind-quarters" when pleased. He has no tail to wag, so he wags his buttocks say they. There is no doubt that the tails can now be so docked that not even the most skilful practitioner could, from outward examination, or by any action or movement, discover that such an operation has been performed.

Dr. Edwardes-Ker, of Woodbridge, Suffolk, is the great authority on the variety, he having bred and kept it for over thirty years, and at the same time made himself thoroughly acquainted with all the specimens to be found in his locality which, with Dorchester, perhaps produces more old English

sheep dogs than any other part of the kingdom. His opinion and experience as follows will no doubt be valued. He believes that

“Many hundred years ago, when our island was principally primeval forest, with but few clearings, it must necessarily have been infested with wolves, bears, and the lesser British carnivoræ, and to protect the flocks and herds it must have been requisite to have a large and powerful dog, able to cope with such formidable and destructive foes, able to undergo any amount of fatigue, and with a jacket to withstand all vicissitudes of weather, for his avocation was an everyday one; day and night, and in all weathers, was he watching and battling with heat and storm and marauding foes. What other dog but the old English sheep-dog possesses attributes necessary for the multifarious duties urged upon such a business?

“There we find the sagacity, the activity, the enduring strength, the dauntless courage, and the weatherproof jacket combined to such a degree as in no other British dog. His origin is lost in the dim obscurity of buried centuries. To my mind his antiquity and concentration of purity of strain are fully shown in the fact, that if there be a strain of old English sheep-dog blood many generations back in any breed of dog, a typical specimen will

every now and again show itself in the litter produced by utterly dissimilar breeds, no matter whether it be a retriever, lurcher, spaniel, or cur of low degree. Apparently not one drop of sheep-dog blood for generations, and yet there is the unmistakable youngster—sometimes tailless, more often with a three-inch stump—brought into the world jet-black, with his characteristic white markings, and in a few weeks, chameleon-like, he gradually assumes the silvery-lilac livery of his ancient British ancestors, and makes his bow to the public as a pigeon-blue and white English sheep-dog, 'breeder and pedigree unknown.'

"With regard to the sagacity of this breed I consider it has few equals, and certainly no superior. In a large dairy farm I know of, there is a dog which will fetch up individual cows as they are required to be milked, distinguishing those which he has already fetched up, and after being milked are allowed to mix with the rest of the herd. When quite a lad I remember seeing an old grizzle and white sheep dog lying outside a farmhouse here in Suffolk, which three weeks or a month before was purchased in Dumfries; he worked a herd of bullocks all the way from his Scottish home to the eastern corner of Suffolk by road. After remaining comfortably for a fortnight in his

new quarters, one day he was missing, and no tidings could be gleaned of him in the neighbourhood; and no wonder, for within the week his Suffolk purchaser received a letter informing him the old dog was safe back in Dumfries. This incident occurred to Mr. Edmund Tye, of The Moat Farm, Dallinghoo, Suffolk, who was my informant.

"As to the size of the original breed, I cannot help thinking he was a much larger dog than is seen nowadays. They have a dwarfed appearance; they are all 'little big 'uns,' and to obtain that characteristic there must have been the size sometime or other. And I confess I prefer the big ones; they have a grander appearance, a big blue and white dog of twenty-five inches catches the eye, and he can carry a heavy coat without looking like a smothered Yorkshire or a door-mat-like Isle of Skye terrier. Shepherd's prefer the little ones, why? because they do not eat so much, and can dodge in and out of the furze bushes after rabbits. These men do not want sheep-dogs nowadays, they prefer whippets. The well-known dog, Sir Guy, who in his day was almost invincible on the show-bench, was once sold for two shillings because he fell head over heels over a rabbit; and to my idea that old dog, when in full coat, was the grandest dog in existence.



“An old English sheep-dog’s coat should be shaggy, and all I can liken it to, is to that peculiar style of growth of hair frequently seen on a clod-hopping countryman’s head—in a word, shock-headed: one lock growing this way, and another that way; no curl, but a sort of head you could wipe your boots on!

“Suffolk has produced most of the best show specimens of late years—to wit, Sir Guy, Sir Lucifer, Sir Lancelot, Mayor of Newport, Blue Ruin, Welsh Sensation, Welsh Marvel, Dame Dorothy, the American Dame Judith. Dame Margery, bought in Norwich Market sixteen years ago for half-a-crown, was the dam of the last Olympia Cup Winner, Sir Caradoc, and grand-dam of Sir Cavendish. Nellie II. is another sterling good bitch, great in size and style, a trifle soft in coat, but there is no poodle resemblance; her sire and dam were sheep-dogs of the type beloved by drovers, long and strong, and rough in body and mind. Probably the best dog of the variety we have at present is Mr. A. H. Megson’s (formerly Dr. Edwardes-Ker’s) Sir Ethelwolf, which, after winning the championship at the Kennel Club’s Show in 1897, followed up this success at Birmingham, where it was awarded the special prize for the best sheep-dog of any variety in the Hall,

beating at the same time most of the leading collies of the day.

“So far as colour is concerned, sables and brindles and blacks are an abomination! Dogs twenty-four or twenty-five inches, or larger if possible. Bitches as big as one can get them, both sexes being strong and masculine in appearance, with length and strength, well knit, but not cloddy like guinea pigs; at the same time size should not weigh against type and quality. The more *hair* on the jaws the better; I mean hair, too, not wool.

“I remember, as quite a boy, that the generality of old English sheep-dogs were grey or blue in colour, with white feet, and white head and neck. Nearly every drover had one, and every shepherd, for we had no collies then. An old drover who died here (near Woodbridge) in 1889, at a very great age, named Chuffy Plant, told me that my dogs were the right stamp, but they were ‘little rat-dawg things’; too much quality; were not big enough or strong enough. I could not argue with the old man, as I felt he was an authority, but I explained to him that I had to breed for the show-bench. Whereupon he anathematised the show-bench with this remark: ‘Drat it all, ye can allus breed minnifers; dround them and rear the big ‘uns!’ Minnifer

or miniver signifies the weasel, but is a term applied in Suffolk to any small or weedy specimen of animals."

In his report for 1897 to the Old English Sheep-dog Club, Dr. Ker, in his characteristic style, writes as follows: "The old English sheepdog is gradually and surely pushing its way into a prominent position in all classes of society, who cannot fail to observe that there are few dogs of any breed which can compare with this variety on the score of sagacity, hardihood, and courage—which attributes tend most materially to constitute a 'good companion'—who can rough it anywhere with anyone. Fortunately for his admirers a sufficient time has not yet elapsed since his introduction to the show ring for the enervating effects of consanguinity and its concomitant thousand ills, to have become apparent; but so surely as exaggerated show points are bred for exclusively, irrespective of the high order of intelligence and robust health for which this dog has been for ever famous, and to which he may even owe his very existence, so surely will these grand characteristics disappear before the prevailing overwhelming wave of in-breeding. This in receding leaves but a hyper-æsthetic cringing idiot, in place of the hardy, bold, able-bodied brave, whose ancestors were pro-

bably imported at the time of the Roman occupation, and doubtlessly guarded our forefathers flocks and herds from such formidable marauding foes as the wolf and the bear. Even now, where the wolf makes his home in far off countries, there do we find the prototype of the old English sheep-dog, guarding the vast flocks and herds. Let us take for instance the huge rough sheep-dog of Russia, known as the Owtchah, which is found in great numbers all along the valley of the Dnieper. This dog stands nearly thirty inches at the shoulder, is very often blue grizzled or blue mired in colour, and has a similar texture and disposition of coat as the best of our dogs, is, however, rarely found bob-tailed—and in my opinion this peculiarity of the English dog is merely the result of selection, as is his smallness of stature in comparison with the Owtchah—and is in no way a characteristic of purity of breed. Yet we confess his appearance is greatly enhanced by the adoption of this English whim, and we furthermore confess we should rejoice to see him bred larger. He is no carpet knight whose interests are so keenly watched over by the Old English Sheep-dog Club, and now that he is becoming a favourite with fine ladies and brave women alike, perhaps the Old English Sheep-dog Club need not fear the extinction of such attributes as the present day

sheep-dog possesses, at all events so rapidly as might otherwise have been the case had he fallen exclusively into the hands of that miserable product of an imperfect civilisation—the dude.

“As matters now stand, this variety is a man’s dog, and so let him remain; the loungeur can choose from many other popular and handsome breeds whose ways are not sheep-dog ways.

“Fine ladies and brave women who take double the exercise the dude is capable of, will find this dog in exercise a most charming companion, but if he is encouraged as a loungeur or a loafer, he will develop many of the vices and none of the virtues of humanity.

“Above all things let us beseech you sheep-dog breeders to avoid consanguinity, and its consequent race of imbecile invalids, if your object and aim is to maintain that hardihood of nerve and limb which assists to form the essential characteristics of this picturesque and rugged breed.”

Sir Cavendish, the property of Dr. Locke, of Tenby, bred by Dr. Edwardes-Ker, I considered in his prime one of the handsomest and best of his breed; moreover, he possesses to a remarkable degree all the attributes required to approach perfection. He may well be considered the typical specimen of his variety, and, as such, particular trouble has been

taken to obtain his full description, which, in combination with the general one already given, will enable those interested to know exactly the sort of animal an old English shèep dog should be.

Sir Cavendish, a pigeon-blue and white dog, with a white collar and white blaze,  $23\frac{1}{2}$  inches in height at the shoulder, 52lb. in weight, with very small flat ears, almost entirely buried in coat, which is long, thick, and shaggy, free from either straightness or curl. It is 11 inches long upon his loins and hind-quarter, whilst his face and legs are evenly and equally clothed with hair, the front of the legs carrying as much coat as the back part of the same. His tail is very short, natural stump, and when he "wags" it, he does so vertically, not horizontally, which his breeder says is a peculiarity he has looked for in vain in any other strain. His sire, Sir Caradoc, is well known as a pigeon-blue and white dog of large size, rather soft in coat, but showing remarkable character; both he and his son inheriting their beautiful colour and sheep-dog characteristics from old Dame Margery, who was also a "natural bob." Her strain is remarkable as most of the dogs and bitches bred therefrom possess double dewclaws upon one or both hind legs.



One other interesting fact remains to be told with regard to the way Dr. Ker hit off the pigeon-blue colour. He had been breeding blue grizzle with blue grizzle for several years, hoping to produce the coveted pigeon-blue, but to his chagrin the puppies came darker with each succeeding generation, and smaller likewise. The thought then struck him of Jockey to get the size back—never dreaming about colour. Jockey was then mated to Dame Margery, and she bred two dog puppies at fourteen years old. One of these was of the long-coveted colour—he became Sir Caradoc; whilst the other was nearly white, with blue ears and a tan cheek.

Within the past few years the “bob-tailed” sheep-dog has become much popularised, and at many of the south country shows several classes are provided which invariably attract good entries. For instance, at the most recent show of the Kennel Club, there were fifty entries; at a comparatively small show held at Streatham, Surrey, early in 1898, there were forty-six entries; and, at the same time that this dog has become so popular, his quality has been greatly improved—indeed, it is seldom a bad specimen is benched. Five years ago there were few first-raters, they including Dr. Locke’s Lady Cavendish, Mr.

Weager's Merle Princess and Brave Tory, Messrs. Birch's Invincible, Dr. Ker's Dame Cavendish, Mr. Freegard's Mayor of Newport, and Dr. McGill's Watchboy. Since, we have had such good dogs as Dr. Locke's Dame Elizabeth, Mrs. Fare-Fosse's Wall-eyed Bob and Thunder Cloud, Mrs. Jocelyn Otway's Bobs Bahadur, Mr. S. W. Bishop's Norfolk Bob, Mr. Ullman's King Kroonah, Mrs. Dickson's Lady Scaramouche, Mr. Megson's Masterpiece, with Sir Ethelwolf and Dame Jessie (recently purchased from Dr. Edwardes-Ker), Mr. F. W. Clayton's Ursa Major, Mr. Wilmot's Orson, Dr. Bott's Bouncer, Mr. J. W. Watson's Princess Dorothy and Jubilee Queen, Mr. Shout's Telford Tatters, Mr. Weager's Dairymaid and Grizzle Marie, Sir H. De Trafford's Dame Barbara, Mr. S. Woodiwiss' Washington, and others equally good.

The number of exhibitors and owners of the variety have naturally increased, and the old English Sheep-dog Club, established in 1888, had in 1897 no fewer than eighty-five members on its books. The following are the points and description of the variety as adopted by that club :

#### DESCRIPTION.

*Skull*.—Capacious, and rather squarely formed, giving plenty of room for brain-power. The parts

over the eyes should be well arched, and the whole well covered with hair.

*Jaw.*—Fairly long, strong, square and truncated; the stop should be defined to avoid a deerhound face. [The attention of judges is particularly called to the above properties, as a long narrow head is a deformity.]

*Eyes.*—Vary according to the colour of the dog, but in the glaucous or blue dogs a pearl, wall, or china eye is considered typical.

*Nose.*—Always black, large and capacious.

*Teeth.*—Strong and large, evenly placed, and level in opposition.

*Ears.*—Small, and carried flat to side of head, coated moderately.

*Legs.*—The forelegs should be dead straight, with plenty of bone, removing the body a medium height from the ground, without approaching legginess; well coated all round.

*Feet.*—Small, round; toes well arched, and pads thick and hard.

*Tail.*—Puppies requiring docking must have an appendage left of from one-and-a-half to two inches, and the operation performed when not older than four days.

*Neck and Shoulders.*—The neck should be fairly long, arched gracefully, and well coated with hair;

the shoulders sloping and narrow at the points, the dog standing lower at the shoulder than at the loin.

*Body.*—Rather short and very compact, ribs well sprung, and brisket deep and capacious. The loin should be very stout and gently arched, while the hind-quarters should be round and muscular, with well let down hocks, and the hams densely coated with a thick, long jacket, in excess of any other part.

*Coat.*—Profuse, and of a good hard texture; not straight, but shaggy and free from curl. The under-coat should be a waterproof pile, when not removed by grooming or season.

*Colour.*—Any shade of grey, grizzle, blue, or blue-merled, with or without white markings, or in reverse.

*Height.*—Twenty-two inches and upwards for dogs, slightly less for bitches.

#### GENERAL APPEARANCE.

A strong compact-looking dog of great symmetry, absolutely free of legginess or weaseliness, profusely coated all over, very elastic in his gallop, but in walking or trotting he has a characteristic ambling or pacing movement, and his bark should be loud with a peculiar *pot cassée* ring in it. Taking him all

round, he is a thick-set, muscular, able-bodied dog, with a most intelligent expression, free of all *poodle* or *deerhound* character.

### SCALE OF POINTS.

	Value.		Value.
Head.....	5	Jaw .....	10
Eye .....	5	Nose.....	5
Colour .....	10	Teeth .....	5
Ears .....	5	Legs .....	10
Body, loins, and hind-		Neck and shoulders ...	10
quarters.....	20	Coat .....	15
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	45		55

*Grand Total, 100.*

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## CHAPTER VII.

### THE POODLE.

THERE used to be an impression abroad that there were two varieties of poodle, the Russian poodle and the French poodle; but the error, however it arose, is now corrected, and we know that the black and the white poodle are common to both nations, as they are to other countries in Europe. A huge black or brown dog occasionally seen in England, where it went by the name of the Russian retriever, was originally imported to cross with our own retrievers to increase the size of the latter. At any rate this was said at the time, but our retrievers were already quite big enough, and the so-called Russian dog was nothing more than a huge poodle.

As a fact, there are more than two varieties of the poodle, and I cannot bring myself to believe that this great big dog from Russia, 80lb. weight or more, is of the same family as the little mite of a creature 6lb. in weight, or even less, which is

well known and can be trained to perform sundry tricks, which it does pretty nearly as well as the bigger dogs. Indeed, that of standing on its head on the palm of its owner's hand could not be well done by a dog thirty or forty pounds in weight. Poodles of the last-named sizes are the most common, and they may be classed as the ordinary variety. Such are found coal black in colour, snow white—is there not a rhyme beginning? “A poodle, white as winter's snow”—chocolate or brown, brown and white, black and white, so-called silver grey, blue, amber, and perhaps other shades.

Not long ago an application was made to the Kennel Club to give distinct tables in the stud books for two varieties of poodle, they being distinguished by such as have the ordinary curly and fluffy coats, and those whose coats consist of the long cords. The matter was strongly argued at one of the Kennel Club meetings, various experts in the variety holding different opinions. Mr. Long desired the separation of poodles into two varieties, whilst Mr. Graves stated that in his own experience, as a breeder and exhibitor for nearly twenty years, there was only one breed and no separate varieties of poodle, and that the corded and non-corded or curly poodle were one and the same; that there was absolutely no natural difference of coat, but simply a

difference of treatment, according to the fancy of the owner. Mr. Tryon, at the time secretary to the Poodle Club, supported Mr. Graves, and gave it as his opinion that the working out of the two types of poodle would be a great difficulty for the judge to decide if a curly poodle was a true specimen of that variety, and it would be impossible to prove this without putting the dog aside for at least six months. In the end the Kennel Club Committee refused to alter the classification. No doubt special treatment of a poodle's coat can make a material difference one way or another, but I have yet to be persuaded that the ordinary curly, fluffy, or short-coated poodles can be developed into the peculiar corded specimens shown on another page.

I believe there are the short, fluffy, or curly-coated poodles, which it is customary to shave, and clip, and trim; and the corded poodle, whose coat hangs down in ropes of extreme length, that in a good specimen actually trail upon the ground. I never saw a brindled poodle or a fallow-coloured one with a black mask, and that such do not exist proves, I think, that the poodle is a very distinct variety of dog, and one that at no time has been crossed with either the bulldog or mastiff, animals, which appear to have always perpetuated their colour in a greater or smaller degree.

The poodle is certainly a dog of foreign extraction, but whether he was first imported to this country from France or from Germany there is no record, though some recent poodle owners have said he was originally "made in Germany," but of this there is no proof. But his sagacity, docility, amiability, and all the other complimentary "tys" applicable to a dog, and which had made him a great favourite on the continent, acted in a similar manner here, the poodle soon made a domicile amongst us, and as it were became one of ourselves. In France—and perhaps in other countries—he had been used, and is still used in some localities, as a sporting dog, in much the same manner as we utilise a spaniel or a retriever; but here he has always come under the non-sporting section, hence his appearance in this volume.

It has been said that the larger variety of the poodle (not the Russian monster) had been found useful in crossing with our water spaniels, especially the Irish variety. Whether this was so or not it is difficult to determine, but we have the fact that in the "Sportsman's Cabinet" (1803) there is an illustration of the "Water Dog" as totally distinct from the water spaniel, and which is neither more nor less than an ordinary curly-coated poodle, a black or brown with a white muzzle and

four white feet; his coat is untrimmed, but the tail is cut. The letterpress tallies very much with Reinagle's excellent engraving, and there are elaborate instructions how to train the "water dog" (poodle) for sporting purposes. Youatt (1845) gives us another excellent drawing of a poodle — a white dog with dark ears and a few patches on his body, and not at all unlike that in the "Sportsman's Cabinet."

Jardine, in his "Naturalist's Library," alludes to the "Water dog or poodle," which, he says, was of German origin, "and in its most perfect state is not of British race. It rose into favour first in Germany, and during the revolutionary wars was carried by the troops into France, and only in the latter campaign became familiar to the British in Spain and the Netherlands." This is probably the case, but we fancy at no time in its history in this country was it used in connection with the gun to the same extent as it was on the continent.

A writer in *Le Chenil* says the poodle is undoubtedly a dog of very old family—one of our oldest races of dogs. As early as 30 A.D., the poodle was sculptured on bas-reliefs, partially clipped on his coat, as he is to be found now; Conrad Gesner wrote of him in 1555; he was put on canvas by the leading animal painters in the



sixteenth century. In Martin De Vos's familiar picture, "Tobit and his Dog," there is no mistaking the shaved or clipped poodle, whilst even earlier than this, about 1490, Bernardino Pinturicchio painted his series of pictures, "Patient Griselda," in which a little poodle, prettily trimmed, is not the least interesting portion of the canvas.

"Stonehenge," in his "Dogs of the British Isles," gives a very interesting account of the poodle from the pen of Mr. L. Clement, who had considerable experience of the variety, especially as a sporting dog. He would divide the poodle into two grand classes, one including the dog used for sporting purposes, the other including performing, companion, and toy poodles, and each of these two classes comprises several different types. The writer then goes on to quote from "Der Hund und Seine Racen," by Dr. Fitzinger, who says there are six very distinct varieties of poodles, viz.: "der gross Pudel, der mittlere Pudel, der kleine Pudel, der kleine Pintsch, der schnür Pudel, and der Schaf-Pudel, besides other and many varieties produced by crossing.

The writer of the article alludes to the skill with which the poodle, when used in France for duck shooting, collects the wounded game at night-time, in which work he shows skill and

intelligence simply unsurpassable, in short, he is so well adapted for that sort of work that in French his generic name *caniche*, is decidedly derived from duck (*canard*). He is also called *chien canne*, which is quite as much a derivation; and in some districts where the ooze abounds the name *barbet* is applied to him, this word being a diminutive for *barboteur*, i.e., a mud-lark, a dog fond of paddling about in the mud. Some writers have, on the contrary, held the *barbet* to be a diminutive poodle, the toy of the variety in fact, but we must accept "Wildfowler's" opinion, supported as it is by "Stonehenge," as most likely to be correct.

It seems rather odd that these working poodles, which have to endure the cold water in winter, and the mud and the slush, for the most part have their jackets cut, the curls being taken closely off from the middle of the back to the hocks, and the remainder of the coat is more or less trimmed. Some of the continental fowlers likewise clip him on the face, leaving the moustache and an "imperial," a quaint and odd idea, which in no way can add to the utility of the dog, whatever it may do so far as appearance is concerned.

Much more could be written about the poodle as a sporting dog, but as one of the Modern

Dogs of Great Britain he is used only as a pet and companion, purely a fancy dog and as a performer on the stage, in the circus, or in the streets. He is a "show dog" in the proper acceptance of the term, and although there are other varieties of the canine race taught to perform tricks of various kinds, the poodle is accepted as the performing dog *par excellence*. It is he who stands on his head, climbs ladders, walks on rolling barrels, turns somersaults both backwards and forwards, feigns death, and performs a host of other accomplishments of which terriers are his imitators. Writers on dogs have always had anecdotes to tell of the sagacious poodle.

Even General Hutchinson, in his excellent work on "Dog Breaking," cannot pass over the performances in Paris of a celebrated poodle named Domini, who not only made up any number that might be desired by selecting corresponding cards upon which numbers had been written, but told the time by the clock, played a good game at dominoes, and otherwise so astonished the gallant officer that he gives two or three pages and an illustration to this well-trained animal. This had happened something like fifty years ago, but long before that time dogs had been trained to perform certain parts in the circus or elsewhere.

In the Bodleian Library there is a manuscript of the fourteenth century, upon which is drawn a performing dog, *i.e.*, one sitting upon its haunches, and Strutt tells us that none of these early illustrations represent the dog in any other position than the above, when he is supposed to be in the throes of his performance. The Bodleian dog is, however, not a poodle ; it might be a beagle or it might be a terrier, probably it represents the mongrel of that period. " Dogges that dance the morrice " appeared at Bartholomew Fair towards the end of the sixteenth century.

Early in 1700 there was a showman, Crawley by name, who performed in London and out of it, with a troupe of poodles highly to the satisfaction of the curious at that time. " The Ball of Little Dogs " he called his exhibition ; the dogs he said came from Louvain (even then we had a taste for something foreign), and had performed before Queen Anne, greatly to Her Majesty's delight. These dogs danced, two of them with the grandiloquent titles of Marquis of Gaillerdain and Madame de Poncette, showing extraordinary training by the manner in which their movements kept time and cadence with the music which accompanied them.

When Sadlers Wells was a more fashionable

place of amusement than is the case now, at the beginning of this century, much interest was taken in some performing poodles, one of which, dressed as a lady, was carried by two other dogs and seated at a table where a banquet was supposed to be spread, of which the "lady dog" and some others partook, their attendant waiters being canines of less aristocratic appearance. This same body of dogs concluded their performance in the part of soldiers, first attacking and then taking a toy fort by storm. This company is said to have consisted of about eighty animals, most of them small poodles, the remainder little spaniels.

However, all these feats are not one tithe better than may be witnessed at our shows and exhibitions at the present time. I have seen a poodle turn a double somersault, another turn somersaults either backwards or sideways at the will of their trainers, and even on horseback when the spotted steed is ambling around the circus ring. They can still "take a hand" both at cards and dominoes, and their tight-rope walking on the hind legs, or on all-fours with a monkey on their backs, and their steeplechases with monkey riders are certainly ahead of anything in the way of poodle training presented before the public in olden times. Only the other day I saw two little poodles on the stage

at Westminster Aquarium that gave an excellent bout at boxing, standing on their hind legs, the gloves being placed on their fore paws, and sparring and striking each other in the face and neck with as much pugnacity as two bipeds might display. As I write, I should say there are now in 1898, at least half a dozen troupes of performing dogs in the metropolis, and each contains several poodles.

The author of "Stonehenge's" article lamented the fact that so few poodles were kept in this country at that time, although they had long been fairly established as a British dog. The Kennel Club Stud Book was first published in 1874, and the following year poodles were included in its pages, but there were only half-a-dozen entries. Later, the variety became more popular, and now each year's registration contains on an average between thirty and forty poodles. This increase is, no doubt, owing to the establishment of a Poodle Club, which was done in 1886. It contains a fair number of subscribers, whose object is, like that of other members of specialist clubs, to improve the dog and to encourage his exhibition at shows, where they provide special prizes for him.

Some of my readers may wonder why a dog with all the intelligence and faithfulness of the poodle is



not the most popular of his variety. Scientists have told us that "his cerebral cavity is more capacious than in other dogs, that the frontal sinuses are fully developed, and that the general formation of the head and skull exhibit every indication of extraordinary intelligence." But the poodle is, like most dogs with curly coats, a rather strong smelling animal, and not always quite a pleasant companion to have in the house. In other respects no animal could be better adapted for the purposes of a companion, for he is sensible, a good follower out of doors, seldom fights or quarrels, moreover he is a perfect specimen of faithfulness. We have had our British mastiff guarding the body of an English gentleman on the field of Agincourt. During the Peninsular War, a poodle accompanied a French officer with his regiment. The battle of Castella was fought, the master fell fatally wounded, the dog remained by the body. The cross of the Legion of Honour glittering and sparkling on the breast of the fallen officer attracted the eyes of his enemies. As they stooped down to cut the treasure from its ribbons, the poodle flew at the thieves, and did not cease his attack until, pierced by cruel bayonets, he fell dead alongside his dead master. Anecdotes of the constancy of the poodle could be quoted to almost any





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extent, and those of my readers who would have some of them I must refer to works that deal more with "dog stories" than can be done in these pages.

As already stated, it has for many years been the custom to shave and clip the coats of some poodles, but whether this was originally done to, in a degree, destroy the strong smell their curly coats, when neglected, possessed, or merely for fancy purposes to make them resemble something Nature never made, we cannot tell. Some of the corded poodles are not subjected to this tonsorial process, or they would be shorn of a great portion of their excellence. The extent of these cords is, perhaps, the chief object to be aimed at in the production of this variety, and the length such cords have been known to attain is, without exaggeration, phenomenal. The most extraordinary creature in this respect I ever saw was a comparatively small-sized poodle named Fairy Queen, shown by the late Mrs. Troughear, of Leeds, and for many years it stood almost alone in the variety classes. This was a white dog, and its cords were of such unusual length that they were many inches longer than the height of the animal. When lying at rest, a very close examination had to be made to discern which was the head and which the stern o

this curious creature. I am at a loss to find how such an extraordinary development could be produced on an ordinary short-coated poodle. Still, the Kennel Club has, by refusing to allow distinct classifications for the curly or fluffy-coated poodle and for the corded variety, pronounced them to be one and the same thing. Some breeders say that the long cords are only produced by careful treatment and by artificial means.

Another extraordinary corded poodle was the imported dog, Lyris, successfully shown for many years by Mr. C. Kemp, of Brook Green. This was a large dog, standing  $21\frac{1}{2}$  inches high at the shoulder, his head was  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, his ears measured 37 inches from tip to tip, including the cords on them, and on each side of his body the cords hung down to the length of 23 inches. This remarkable dog weighed 64lb., and the measurements were taken after he had won the chief prize in the Kennel Club Show held in Jubilee year, 1887.

When Lyris was mated by Mr. Chance to his bitch Begum, a foundation was laid of a strain which has produced the bulk of the prize winners of late years. The most famous of the initial litter was Mrs. Graves' Achilles, perhaps a larger and all round a better dog than his sire, the

excellence of the latter notwithstanding. Achilles stands 23 inches high at the shoulders, his head is 11 inches in length, many of his cords measure 30 inches, and fall quite six inches below his feet. It need scarcely be said that Achilles has won pretty much all before him in the show-ring.

There are but few exhibitors of poodles at our shows at the present time, and undoubtedly the best kennel of all is that of Mrs. R. V. O. Graves, who has an unusually strong team, as a rule almost invincible, including, as it does, specimens both black and white. Her Achilles, Witch, Lyribel, The Druidess, Acrobat, Pantaloon, The Harlequin, The Magician, Enchantress, Woman in White, and The Ghost, are particularly good of their variety. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Long, of near Exmouth, have paid particular attention to the breeding of poodles of other colours than black and white, and have succeeded in producing silver-greys, ambers, and almost blue dogs, which, besides being unique, are admirable specimens. Madame Dagois' The Model is one of our best poodles, and Mr. G. Strong's Pongo and Cigarette may be placed in the same category; whilst Miss M. Humphries' Kilcrone and Mr. Bowers's Cannon Hill Beauty are quite equal to holding their own anywhere. Mr. H. Sanguinetti, Mr. C. Kemp, Mr. J. Brewer, Mr. J. T. Beaumont,



Mr. A. Levey, Mrs. Carstairs, Miss Youlgrave, Mrs. F. Bruncker, Mr. Stuart, Mrs. L. E. Johnston, and Mr. A. Dagois, have had, and still have, good specimens of the breed, and are understood to be the leading, so called, fanciers of the poodle. Still, I believe the trouble to keep the coats in good order will always stand in the way of this intelligent variety of the dog being as popular as it might be under different circumstances.

I have already alluded to the fashion that obtains of clipping and shaving the poodle according to the ideas prevailing at the time, indeed, a well regulated and fashionably dressed poodle requires about as much attention to be kept in order as do the jackets of some of our choice little Yorkshire terriers. It is said that the custom of trimming the poodle arose through an anxiety to look after the comfort of the dog, because the long ringlets or cords interfered with the general health of the poor beast that Nature caused to wear them. In winter they became matted with snow and dirt; in summer they were uncomfortable and harboured vermin; so it came about that the poodle had to be clipped, and trimmed and dressed.

All this is done in various fashions, and there are "professors of the art," high in their line, who will dress your poodle for you, and tie him up

with ribbons blue or yellow or white, for any charge varying from half-a-guinea to a couple of pounds.

A poodle ought to have his coat attended to even before he passes his puppyhood. When four or five months old it is well for his comfort and appearance, say his admirers, or rather I should say for their fancy, to trim or clip the coat on the face and feet and on the hind-quarters from below the tail and about his buttocks. When he is eleven or twelve months old he should be properly clipped, but, as a matter of fact, it is best to have him clipped three or four times before he is actually what may be called finished, *i.e.*, shaved. This ought not to be forgotten, as were the dog shaved before the skin had become in a degree hardened by exposure to the air, pain would be caused the dog, and perhaps some inflammation might arise, as the contact of the razor is by no means pleasant to the patient. When matured, and having undergone the preliminary process, a poodle ought, if the desire be to have him neat and in nice condition, to be trimmed some six times in the year—about every two months.

Poodles are, notwithstanding their “clipping,” apt to get dirty, the white specimens especially so. Still it does not do to wash them too often, as the water and soap are not likely to improve

the coat, and there is considerable difficulty in drying the jacket. Once a month is frequent enough, even not so often as this, unless in the judgment of the owner the dog actually requires it. As a matter of fact, the well-known Lyris, alluded to earlier on, was repeatedly exhibited with success, and he looked well, too, without being washed immediately prior to the exhibition. He might be washed, say, and benched in January, and at another show held six weeks afterwards, he would again appear and look equally well without having had an additional tub in the meantime.

Whilst the coats, especially of the corded varieties require so much attention as to clipping, it is only natural that equal care is required to keep that part in order which does not come under the operation of the shears and razor. There is the "bedding" to be considered, for it will never do for one of these extraordinarily long-coated dogs to be on a bench covered with straw or shavings. The best bed is made by filling a sack with clean straw or dry pitch-pine shavings, and sewing up the ends; then this ought to be properly beaten, shaken, and aired daily, so that no dust remains thereon. The straw or shavings strewn loosely upon the bench in the ordinary fashion are too heating, and, besides, little pieces get into the

coat and cause endless trouble to remove. Moreover, dirt of any kind quickly makes the coat matted, the ringlets stick together near the skin, and ultimately cause long tags, which drop off and leave bare places. As a matter of fact, too much attention and care cannot be given the poodle in the respect of tending and keeping his coat free from dirt, but he must not be combed or brushed, and the fingers must be used to separate the ringlets. Do not be afraid of soap and "elbow grease," but beware of the first appearance of mange or skin disease. The latter is simply ruin to a poodle, at any rate for a time. Here, as in most other matters, prevention is far easier than cure.

When the ringlets, where they are allowed to remain, grow to such an inordinate length as to be in the way of the dog, either so far as exercise or sight is concerned, they ought to be nicely tied up all round. Then the coat of the black poodle has to be dressed with some emollient, and nothing is better for this purpose than a mixture composed of a quarter of a pound of vaseline to half a pint of paraffin. This should be put into a suitable receptacle, which is to be placed in a heated oven and kept there until the concoction is thoroughly blended. It may be scented with any perfume

fancy suggests, and must then be placed in a jar, kept covered, and applied when cold.

This dressing, which will darken and brighten the coat of a black dog, is also suitable for brown poodles, as too much washing of the latter, transforms the dark chocolate shade into a somewhat mealy tint. Should the paraffin odour remain on the dog, an hour in the open air will soon remove any unpleasantness. The dressing ought to be applied about three times a week.

White poodles require equal care in washing, and a leading authority on the breed tells me there is nothing that keeps the coat whiter, and in better order than Hudson's extract of soap applied in the usual manner.

In cases where neglect has caused the coat to become matted, it is best to cut off the unpleasant tags close to the skin. Particular attention, too, must be paid to cleaning the coat about and below the root of the tail. It should be frequently washed thereabouts—whenever it seems to be required.

If these instructions are attended to and the poodle be given a little cooling medicine, such as Epsom salts or magnesia, in his food occasionally, he will not be found to harbour anything offensive about him, nor will the smell from his skin or coat be more objectionable than it is in an ordinary

long-coated terrier or collie dog. Indeed, one admirer and connoisseur of the variety will have me believe that his favourite dog has not naturally any offensive smell whatever, and that where such is perceived, it arises solely through neglect.

Thus carefully have I entered into the management and keeping of the poodle as a house dog, because it is only used as such in this country and because it is the dog above all others that, through neglect to its cleanliness, will become an eyesore, and offensive to its owner ; whilst *au contraire* a little trouble will make it as pretty and as pleasant a dog as man or woman need desire. As to its intelligence and faithfulness, nothing further need be said by me.

Perhaps it may be fresh information to some who have kept poodles to know that their "wool" or "cords" can be used for manufacturing purposes, and although "poodle's wool" is not a mercantile commodity, the owner of a poodle can clip him, have the results made into yarn, and in due course converted into socks or similar articles of wear. One gentleman sent a sample of "poodle's wool" into Scotland, and forwarded me a specimen of the yarn spun from it. The dog from which it was taken yielded four pounds weight of wool, and many of the locks were eight



inches in length and over, but the clipping was merely done in the first instance because the coat was falling off. As an old shepherd said when he was told of this, "Aye, aye, nea wonder sheep is sae cheap when these new-fangled dogs can grow four pound o' wool apiece."

The sample of the yarn I saw was of a silky though rather hard texture, and the manufacturer called it "a very pretty wool;" the spinner said it was difficult to "tease" because so badly matted, but he thought it likely to card and spin well. When made, the yarn is knitted into socks; the latter seem rather hard, and their wearer tells me though they are "somewhat harsh and whiskery, they are calculated to create a healthy friction, and are well suited for a cold climate."

A variety of the poodle, or at any rate a cross bred poodle, is known as "the truffle dog," although all truffle dogs are not poodles. "Stonehenge," in his "Dogs of the British Isles," gives an illustration of a "truffle dog," which appears to be a cross between a small curly-coated poodle and a terrier. These animals are trained for the purpose of finding truffles, an edible fungus that grows underground in some parts of this country. It is, however, commoner on the continent, in France, Italy, and elsewhere, where pigs are trained for the

purpose of finding the dainty article. As a fact, almost all the truffles used in Great Britain are procured from the continent, though they are found in some localities of the south of England in considerable numbers, in Hampshire, Wiltshire, Dorsetshire, Oxfordshire (Windsor Forest was once a notable place), and Kent, but no doubt it is produced in other situations, where the land is of a chalky nature and where beech trees flourish. This peculiar fungus is said to be a connecting link between the animal and the vegetable kingdoms, as, like the former, it absorbs oxygen and throws off carbonic gas. Otherwise it is a vegetable pure and simple, but it is of most value for high-class cooking purposes.

As an industry, the occupation of the truffle-hunter is rapidly dying out. In Hampshire and elsewhere there are no young men springing up who seem inclined to follow in the steps of the old ones who have made a moderate living by gathering truffles for many years. This is especially notable in the Wiltshire villages, where a quarter of a century and more ago, families were supported by their heads who took trouble to train and keep their favourite strain of dog for the purpose. One of the chief truffle "hunters" was Isaac Bray, of Winterslow, near Salisbury,

who has followed the occupation for more than half a century. His dogs are well known, and there is always a demand for the puppies, which, before they are trained, are worth £2 or £3 each. Of course a properly trained dog is worth much more, and the owner of a really good one is naturally loth to part with his animal, as the livelihood of the family depends so much thereon.

Local traditions say that a Spaniard who settled somewhere in Wiltshire, about 250 years ago, first introduced the truffle-hunting dog, and since that time the industry, if it can be so called, has been carried on. The dogs are very much inbred, thus difficult to rear. They are of any colour, white, even black, and any intermingling of the two. The lighter coloured and white dogs are best for the purpose, as they are easier seen in the coverts and undergrowth. In some instances a black dog has a broad white collar or front placed around his neck, so that he may be better seen by his worker. The training of the dog should commence when he is about four months old, when he is taught to bring to his master a truffle which is thrown for him. This quickly done, his next task is to fetch one of them which is hidden, and following this a truffle is first covered with earth, and this, too, he is encouraged to find and take

to his master. So gradually the lessons continue, until the puppy will be quite reliable in finding and bringing in fungi which have been buried by his master two inches or so underground, the dog being, of course, rewarded with some little dainty each time he does his duty well. So far perfect, he is now taken out to some place where truffles are known to be, and the dog will find them, thus his training is accomplished with less trouble than either a pointer or setter is broken to find and stand game.

Of course, the little dog hunts keenly, and with his nose to the ground, his tail action and quickness on scent are quite equal to such as are seen in a spaniel on the line of fur or feather. When a truffle has been "set" or found two or three inches below the ground's surface, the dog will scratch the soil away with his paws in the fashion common to canines, but the better plan, and the one usually followed, is for the owner to dig up the prize, and so prevent any risk of its being injured by the dog's teeth. I need scarcely state that a truffle dog must be thoroughly and entirely broken from his natural inclination to hunt game and vermin.

The truffle is in season in England from November until March, but it can be purchased in most shops where such things are sold, all the year round. As I have said, the occupation of truffle-hunting is

little followed now in Great Britain, still I believe that it is one for which there is ample scope and likely to prove remunerative to the labourer or working man who would commence such work. But he must have no poaching proclivities, else the love of the rabbits or hares amongst which he hunts. will induce him to leave his adopted "profession" for another that is against the law of the land.

So far for the poodle, and how useful a dog he is and may be made, I think sufficient has been written to prove, and perhaps the following description of the animal (with the aid of Mr. Wardle's illustrations), published by the Poodle Club, will enable any who do not know what such a dog is like to recognise a poodle when they see him in the streets or on the stage.

A "Poodle Club" was established in 1886, and the following is the description issued by that body.

#### POINTS OF THE PERFECT BLACK POODLE.

"*General appearance.*"—That of a very active, intelligent, and elegant looking dog, well built, and carrying himself proudly.

"*Head.*"—Long, straight, and fine, the skull not broad, with a slight peak at the back.

"*Muzzle.*"—Long (but not snipy), and strong, not

full in cheek, teeth white, strong and level ; gums black, lips black, and tight-fitting.

“ *Eyes.*”—Almond shape, very dark brown, full of fire and intelligence.

“ *Nose.*”—Black and sharp.

“ *Ears.*”—The leather long and wide, low set on hanging close to the face.

“ *Neck.*”—Well proportioned and strong to admit of the head being carried high and with dignity.

“ *Shoulders.*”—Strong and muscular, sloping well to the back.

“ *Chest.*”—Deep and moderately wide.

“ *Back.*”—Short, strong, and slightly curved, the loins broad and muscular, the ribs well sprung, and braced up.

“ *Feet.*”—Small and of good shape, the toes well arched, pads thick and hard.

“ *Legs.*”—Set straight from shoulder with plenty of bone and muscle.

“ *Tail.*”—Set on rather high, well carried, never curled or carried over back.

“ *Coat.*”—Very profuse, and of good hard texture ; if corded, hanging in tight even cords, if non-corded, very thick and strong, of even length, the curls close and thick without knots or cords.

“ *Colours.*”—All black, all white, all red, &c.

The weights of the poodle vary, a large dog may



be up to 60lb.; medium, 40lb.; small, 20lb.; toy not more than 8lb.

WHITE POODLES should have dark eyes, black or dark liver noses, lips, and toe nails.

RED POODLES.—Dark amber eyes, dark liver noses, lips, and toe nails.

SILVER GREY OR BLUE POODLES.—Of even colour, without patches of white or black, dark eyes, lips, and toe nails; the other points the same as black poodles.

#### POINTS.

	Value.		Value.
General appearance ...	10	Legs and feet.....	10
Head .....	15	Coat .....	15
Eyes and expression ...	10	Carriage of stern .....	5
Neck and shoulders ...	10	Bone, muscle, and con-	
Shape of body, loin,		dition .....	10
and back.....	15		—
	60		40

*Grand Total 100.*



2-1100 W. 11th St.



## CHAPTER VIII.

### THE DALMATIAN.

SOME early writers have told us that this dog was used in Denmark to draw carts and other conveyances utilised by the thrifty Dane and his wife to take their commodities from place to place. Perhaps he or an animal something like him was trained for work of this kind, and consequently being a great favourite in that country, he easily obtained the name of "Danish dog," by which he is often alluded to, even by so recent an authority as Youatt.

Again, we are informed that he first came from Spain, and Jardine, in his "Naturalist's Library," mentions a picture of a spotted dog, time the middle of the sixteenth century, from which he believes our modern Dalmatian must have been descended.

Aldrovandus, whom I have had occasion to allude to on several occasions, and who wrote about the same date, gives us a picture of a dog which

he calls "*Canis sagax ad coturnices capiendas pantherinus*"—a sagacious spotted dog for taking quails. Now, the dog depicted is spotted over the body with irregularly-shaped marks, and he has one patch on the back; he seems longish on his legs, has his tail shortened considerably, but in shape, character, and appearance of coat, he appears to be more of the setter type than that of the modern Dalmatian. Still, although used for taking quails, the name suggests that he might be the antecedent of the "spotted" dogs of a later date and of modern times. Especially when some writers have told us that the Dalmatian was, at one period of his history, trained for sporting purposes.

Another writer informs us that this dog came originally from Bengal, when his peculiar markings made him much admired by the wealthy and luxurious natives, whose establishments were not deemed to be complete without several spotted dogs in the kennels. Moreover, it was at that time (when?) commonly supposed that the dogs had originally been obtained from a cross with a tiger! And such stuff was believed. I am waiting to find that the Chinese had these same dogs many hundreds of years before Great Britain was invaded by her Roman conquerors.

Leaving the above fabulous statement for what it is worth, and coming to more modern instances, we have our common "coach" dog likened to a bull terrier, and then to a pointer. Richardson says that he has seen one trained to do a pointer's work, and did it as well as the genuine article. This I doubt very much, for no Dalmatian could possess either the range, or pace, or nose, or natural intelligence where game is concerned, as a dog whose parents had been specially trained for the purpose for many generations.

There is little doubt that our modern "coach dog" originally sprang from Dalmatia, a province in the southern part of Austria, hence his name, but from there he might have gone over to Spain, or perhaps, in the first instance some Spaniard might have sent him out to Dalmatia, where the enterprising inhabitants soon claimed him as their own. However, it does not matter much what country first gave him birth.

The Dalmatian is with us now, and towards the end of last century and up to the middle of the present one, he was usually seen following the carriages of those wealthy enough to keep them. He was fond of the horses, lived in the stables with them, was little or no trouble to the grooms, and the portly coachman did not think his master's



equipage perfect unless it had a nicely spotted dog running under the carriage at the horses' heels. The Dalmatian differs thus much from other dogs that his attachment was to the carriage and horses, other dogs make friends with the human race.

Perhaps it was for this reason the coach dog obtained a reputation for stupidity which it did not deserve. It showed uncommon skill and sagacity in keeping close to the carriage in the busiest and most crowded thoroughfares, was seldom or never lost, and "Idstone" tells us of a celebrated performing dog of this variety which acted as clown, and the best of the kind he had ever seen.

The Dalmatian still often appears and assists to earn his master's living by performing on the stage and many good ones I have seen, but he is too staid and sober to be a perfect "clown" dog, and go through such funny antics as that brown and white cross-bred creature "Professor" Wingfield has had so long as the leading member of his excellent troupe of performing canines.

When taken out of the stable into the house, our Dalmatian makes quite as good a companion as any other dog; he is kindly in disposition, by no means quarrelsome—indeed I cannot call to recollection the time when I saw one "have a turn" with a snarling neighbour—cleanly in his habits,

and thoroughly tractable. Once it was the custom to cut his ears off, happily this piece of barbarity has long since been discontinued. Bewick, the eminent wood engraver, gives us a Dalmatian so mutilated, but in Reinagle's drawing in the "Sportsman's Cabinet" it is difficult to tell, owing to the position of the dog—he is galloping—whether the ears are on or off. I fancy they are off.

The latter illustration is a most typical one in the shape and form of the dog, but his spots might be more distinct on the body; on the stern his markings are about perfect, and far ahead of anything I know of in a living specimen at the present day. Reinagle's dog is, however, darkly marked on the body, and when this is the case, he is likely to be so on the stern likewise, the difficulty being to obtain a perfectly marked dog with a proportionate number of spots on his caudal appendage.

As to the modern Dalmatian, he is sometimes marked with brown or liver spots on the white ground, and these markings, when clearly defined, are quite as good as those of pure black on a white ground. Again, he is sometimes to be seen with what is called "china" or "wall eyes," a peculiarity frequently appearing in all varieties of the dog that have much white about them, and where the white is mixed with black, or what is often called "blue."

Personally, I do not consider the "wall-eyes" detract from the animal's appearance.

In the club standard such is not alluded to, and I do not believe any judge who found a perfectly marked Dalmatian with this light-coloured eye would disqualify or even severely handicap him on its account. Mr. T. Newby Wilson, of the Landing, Newby Bridge, Ulverston, had for some time the best kennel of Dalmatians, his liver spotted Prince IV.; his black spotted Acrobat and Landing Boy being as good as anything we have seen for some time. Mr. E. T. Parker, Redland, near Bristol, has had and still has some very good dogs, including Coming Still, Fauntleroy, Ringmaster, and others. An excellent liver or brown marked dog was Doncaster Beauty, and amongst the first rank in black and whites were and are Berolina, Mr. A. E. Paley's Black Prince, Mr. H. C. Hodson's Goblin, Mr. J. E. Preston's Moujik and Chance, Mr. W. B. Moore's Morecambe Prince, Mr. S. Woodiwiss' Coming Ringmaster, Mr. Beale's Ribblesdale Sam. Mr. Hugo Droeese, of London, the late secretary to the specialist club, has from time to time shown some excellent specimens. Mr. G. Mercer, Newcastle, Staffordshire; Mr. J. H. Foster, Cheadle Hulme, Cheshire; Mr. H. Carthew, Ulverston; Mr. R. J. Hartley, Bridgenorth, Salop, and Mr. G. R.

Sims, London, have at times shown Dalmatians of more than ordinary excellence, which, however, are more used for show purposes and for the adornment of the benches than to run after their masters' carriages. Mr. James Fawdry, Sutton Coldfield, has always been a great admirer of the breed. His dog Captain was one of the best of his day, and at the earlier shows Mr. R. J. Lloyd Price used to win with a dog called Crib, which was quite equal to the best we have now. Another good one came from Kirkby Lonsdale, the late Dr. James' Spotted Dick, and about twenty-five years ago there were, perhaps, more of these coach dogs in the north of England than in any other part of the country, though in Staffordshire Messrs. Hales had a kennel containing many first-rate specimens.

The Dalmatian has not of late years proved particularly popular with the general public; he has been left to the care of the servants, and children jeered and called him "the plum-pudding dog." He has not deserved such treatment, and although I do not go so far as many of his admirers and vouch for his excellence as a sporting dog when trained for the purpose, I do believe that brought up as a companion to man, he proves quite equal to any other of the canine race.

Perhaps his lack of popularity (a special club was established in 1890 for the purpose of increasing his fading fortunes) may have been owing to the great difficulty in breeding perfectly marked specimens. Litter after litter may be produced, the progeny of the best parents, without a fairly marked puppy in the lot. Some turn out too dark, others too light; one may have heavy black ears, another may, when fully grown, look as if a huge bottle of ink had been emptied over him, and there does not appear to be any rule or guide by which to breed for perfect markings.

In poultry, something towards breeding for markings alone, can be done, as is the case with the black and white Hamburgs, silver spangled and silver pencilled. To get perfectly marked pullets you breed from one strain, to obtain equally good cockerels you breed from another. There is no such rule with regard to the spotted dog, and in most cases when a good one is produced it is by a sheer fluke.

Another thing against his popularity is that it is hardly possible when the puppies are born, nor for long after, to tell how they will be marked when fully matured. For instance, they usually come into the world white. Occasionally some are thus early marked with faint spots, or with black ears, or both;

but this is not as things ought to be in a specimen that is expected to turn out perfect. About the tenth day after birth, the spots commence to make themselves apparent. There is a dark ridge along the belly, the ears blacken, the back becomes slightly darker, and about the third or fourth week most of the spots, though ill-defined, are visible on the body. So the markings continue to develop until the puppy is some three months old or so, at which period all the spots on the body should be pretty distinct.

However, the stern or tail generally remains white until about the fourth month, when, if there are to be spots thereon, such should begin to appear. Still, very often they are not even faintly visible until the twelfth month, and the quality and appearance of a Dalmatian puppy cannot be told definitely and as a certainty until it is twelve or fifteen months old—never earlier. So those who are in the habit of purchasing puppies at six weeks, when a Dalmatian is the object, must act in accordance with these facts. As a rule a breeder of the variety will not sell his puppies at so early an age. Did he do so, he might, for a couple of pounds or so, dispose of what might in the end turn out to be the best dog he ever bred, worth probably not less than £30 or £40. The latter, is



however, an unusual sum to give for an animal of this variety, still one pretty nearly perfect might pay the purchaser at that amount, in stud fees, and prizes he might win. After writing the above, I need hardly say that occasions are not isolated where an owner of Dalmatian puppies, on their birth, finding them without marks of any kind, has ordered the whole litter to be destroyed.

Although the Dalmatian Club has been energetic, and has done good work since 1890, when it was first inaugurated, it has not been able to popularise its special dog to any great extent. At our largest shows the club is in the habit of giving special prizes and causing separate classes to be provided for the black and brown spotted varieties, thus enabling the two to compete on their own merits. Still even this has not been the means of increasing competitors to any great extent. At Cruft's huge show held at the Agricultural Hall in February, 1893, although eleven classes were provided and seven special prizes, there were but twenty-three entries, and only thirteen dogs actually competed, several of them being entered in more than one class. At Birmingham in 1897 there were but six dogs entered in three classes and at the Kennel Club's Show the same year there were seven animals entered in two classes, for which six class prizes were offered and

five specials. Evidently our old Dalmatian is not a fashionable dog and were it not for a few ardent admirers of the variety, I fancy that the "coach dog" might, in a few years, become pretty well extinct so far as this country is concerned.

The following is the description of the Dalmatian adopted by the club. It will be noticed that thirty points are allowed for colour and markings ; still, if a dog were pretty well patched black and white, however perfect in other particulars, he would be disqualified, for the distinctness of the markings are here a *sine qua non* :

"The Dalmatian in many particulars much resembles the pointer, more especially in size, build, and outline, though the markings peculiar to this breed are a very important feature and very highly valued.

"*In General Appearance* the Dalmatian should represent a strong, muscular, and active dog, symmetrical in outline and free from coarseness and lumber, capable of great endurance combined with a fair amount of speed.

"*The Head* should be of fair length, the skull flat, rather broad between the ears, and moderately well defined at the temples, *i.e.*, exhibiting a moderate amount of stop, and not in one straight line from the nose to the occiput bone as required

in a bull-terrier. It should be entirely free from wrinkle.

“ *The Muzzle* should be long and powerful; the lips clean, fitting the jaws moderately close.

“ *The Eyes* should be set moderately well apart, and of medium size, round, bright and sparkling, with an intelligent expression, their colour greatly depending on the markings of the dog. In the black spotted variety the eyes should be dark (black or dark brown); in the liver spotted variety they should be light (yellow or light brown).

“ *The rim round the Eyes* in the black spotted variety should be black, in the liver spotted variety brown—never flesh-coloured in either.

“ *The Ears* should be set on rather high, of moderate size, rather wide at the base and gradually tapering to a rounded point. They should be carried close to the head, be thin and fine in texture, and always spotted, the more profusely the better.

“ *The Nose* in the black spotted variety should always be black, in the liver spotted variety always brown.

“ *Neck and Shoulders*.—The neck should be fairly long, nicely arched, light and tapering, and entirely free from throatiness. The shoulders should be moderately oblique, clean and muscular, denoting speed.

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*“Body, Back, Chest, and Loins.*—The chest should not be too wide, but very deep and capacious, ribs moderately well sprung, never rounded like barrel hoops (which would indicate want of speed), the back powerful, loin strong, muscular, and slightly arched.

*“Legs and Feet,* of great importance. The fore-legs should be perfectly straight, strong, and heavy in bone, elbows close to the body, fore-feet round, compact, with well-arched toes (cat-footed), and round, tough elastic pads. In the hind legs the muscles should be clean, though well-defined, the hocks well let down.

*“Nails,* in the black spotted variety, black and white, in the liver spotted variety, brown and white.

*“The Tail* should not be too long, strong at the insertion and gradually tapering towards the end, free from coarseness. It should not be inserted too low down, but carried with a slight curve upwards, and never curled. It should be spotted, the more profusely the better.

*“The Coat* should be short, hard, dense and fine, sleek and glossy in appearance, but neither woolly nor silky.

*“Colour and Markings.*—These are most important points. The ground colour in both varieties should be pure white, very decided, and not inter-mixed. The colour of the spots in the black

spotted variety should be black, the deeper and richer the black the better ; in the liver spotted variety they should be brown. The spots should not intermingle, but be as round and well-defined as possible, the more distinct the better ; in size they should be from that of a sixpence to a florin. The spots on head, face, ears, legs, tail, and extremities to be smaller than those on the body.

“ *Size*.—Dogs, 55lb. ; bitches, 50lb.”

#### STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE.

	Value.		Value.
Head and eyes .....	10	Legs and feet .....	15
Ears .....	5	Coat .....	5
Neck and shoulders .....	10	Colour and markings...	30
Body, back, chest and		Tail .....	5
loins .....	10	Size, symmetry, &c. ...	10
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	35		65

*Grand Total, 100.*







## CHAPTER IX.

### THE BULLDOG.

TIME is known to play grim jokes with historical monuments, but it probably has never burlesqued anything more than it has our national emblem, the British bulldog.

Evolved for a specific purpose—a purpose long since stamped out both by law and by sentiment—the present day examples can only be looked upon as the result of breeding for certain points not desired or found in any other kind of dog. That the bulldog can claim as great pretensions to antiquity as any other now so-called “breeds” is not to be denied; but to say that bulldogs are bred to-day on the same lines as they were even sixty years ago would be an assertion that could not by any evidence be defended.

Ancient writers have been quoted *ad nauseam*, but, interesting as these extracts may be as references to the early history of dogs in general, they bear no coherent testimony that the animals

they refer to had more than a faint resemblance to the recognised type of bulldogs as living in 1898.

Evidence which is far more reliable is at our disposal in the pictures published towards the end of the last and the beginning of this century—the epoch when bull-baiting was in vogue—and, judging from these pictures, the bulldog of that time was but a phantom-like shadow of the animal the *fin de siècle* bulldog enthusiast has by patience succeeded in producing.

Thus to him who, nowadays, wishes either to breed or to own an up-to-date specimen, it will be so much useless and embarrassing learning if he hampers himself with any considerations as to the outline and general appearance of what has been handed down to him regarding the animals his ancestors looked up to as bulldogs. Should he decide upon breeding bulldogs he will find, in order to produce a specimen at all approaching the modern ideal, that, instead of wasting time in pondering over the old type, he will have to employ that particular style of dog which may at the moment be in fashion.

He need have no misapprehension that the type in general will in the future change much, if at all; nor need he fear that the goal he is striving for will be advanced. For it must be remembered that the standard laid down for this breed has not materially

altered during the last twenty years, though judges' decisions may have sometimes been at variance with, if not diametrically opposed thereto. The very fact of there being now two bulldog clubs is a guarantee that no radical change in the standard will ever be permitted, as one or other of the clubs is certain to hover round so safe an anchorage as an established type. If either club sanctions what sensible men must know is a departure from what is correct, it is only reasonable to suppose that in the fulness of time that club will sink in public estimation.

However, before going right into the description of what a modern bulldog ought to be, some few particulars of his early history may be desirable, and it is said that the first record of bulldogs in England was in 1631, when one Prestwich Eaton, from St. Sebastian, wrote to George Wellingham, of St. Swithin's Lane, London, for a mastiff and two good bulldogs.

Bulldogs were ostensibly dogs for bull-baiting, and as this brutal diversion was known to be in vogue as early as 1209, consequently there must have been bulldogs then. Such animals as were used for actual work were quite unlike the modern manufactured article, which has undoubtedly suffered by the discontinuance of the amusement.

There was no use for him with bulls, so he had to be bred for fancy purposes alone. Huge, broad heads became the rage, legs widely bowed were in favour, and from an active dog, that was able to seize a bull by the nose and keep his hold there, he has come to be what we see him now.

As the author of "Modern Dogs" I must write of them as they are at the present time, and, as an instance of the mischief of breeding for the exaggeration of certain points, reproduce the following account of a walking match between two crack bulldogs which took place in the summer of 1893. There had been a brindled dog shown with extraordinary success at that time, for which his owner, Mr. S. Woodiwiss, was reported to have given £250. In the opinion of many persons he was so much a cripple as to be unable to stand properly in the ring, which was a fact. However, the judges under whom the dog in question came, appeared blind to his defects, and time after time he was placed over more perfect animals. Then a match was made between Dockleaf, the dog alluded to, and another well-known prize-winning bulldog, called King Orry, owned by Mr. G. R. Murrell.

The novelty of the contest caused considerable interest to be taken therein, and it was arranged

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under the following conditions: "Each dog to be led and make the best of the way from the Roebuck Hotel, Lewisham, to Bromley Town Hall and back, the distance being about ten miles. The competitors might have as much rest as appeared desirable, but 'lifting' from the ground was disqualification. At seven o'clock, when the start was made, a big crowd was in attendance, a portion of which accompanied the dogs on their journey. King Orry went off with the lead, and was nearly 400 yards ahead when a mile or more had been traversed. Soon after Dockleaf showed signs of fatigue, but continued on his journey to a couple of miles from the start, when, being fairly beaten, Mr. Woodiwiss withdrew him from further competition; his opponent was then far in front, and 'going well.' Mr. Murrell's dog, after a rest of seven minutes, arrived at Bromley Town Hall, and then set off on the return journey, Lewisham being duly reached at 9.25 p.m. Both animals had been in training for the match, and the winner showed no signs of distress after the accomplishment of what some modern admirers of the bulldog consider a great feat, but which we consider any bulldog ought to do equally satisfactorily. The loser occupied a trifle under forty minutes in covering his two miles, and, exclusive of stoppages, the winner progressed at the rate of some four and a



half miles in the hour." Soon after this King Orry was sold to go to America, and in the same month, viz. July, 1894, Dockleaf, when less than four years old, died at Cardiff Show where he was being exhibited—a victim to the oppressive heat prevailing at that time.

Although all bulldogs are not so unable to walk at a fair pace as was the case with Dockleaf; still, he must be given as an example of the evil of breeding for certain exaggerations which nature could never have produced without human assistance, and to prove that an animal may win in the show ring and at the same time possess insufficient activity to preserve him in ordinary health.

Compare the above performance with what is said to have happened early in 1830, when, according to the *Examiner*, a gentleman living at East Grinstead had three bulldogs trained to draw a light four-wheeled cart. To this they were harnessed two "in the shafts" and one in front. On sundry occasions they brought their owner and his son into London at a smart pace of about seven miles an hour, though they could be taken as fast as ten miles an hour, and the usual time occupied in driving from his residence to Brighton, a distance of forty-eight miles, was six hours, and he had driven as much as fifty-two miles in one day. Perhaps, so far as

actual "bulldogs" are concerned, this may be misleading, and I do not doubt that the dogs in question were strong bull mastiffs—a cross by no means uncommon at that time. Still doubtless the bulldog of 1830 was a more active animal than the bulldog of 1898.

As already observed, with the discontinuance of bull-baiting, following the passing of an Act in 1835 for the prevention of cruelty to animals, came a lull in the production of the breed, and we read that at the commencement of the present century the "true" bulldog was very scarce. There is in the possession of Mr. Cyril F. W. Jackson, of Teignmouth, a painting (of which engravings are extant, dated May 15th, 1809), by H. B. Chalon, representing three bulldogs, Wasp, Child, and Billy. Of these dogs it was said they belonged to Mr. H. Boynton, were of the late Duke of Hamilton's breed, and the only ones left of that blood. Such dogs were so great in estimation that, it is stated, Mr. Boynton refused 120 guineas for Billy, and 20 guineas for a whelp before taken from the bitch. It was further asserted at the time that they were "the only real bulldogs in existence, and that upon their decease that variety of dog may be considered extinct." It is evident from this, that exaggeration was not unknown in those days, for the

bulldog is now far from extinct, though Wasp and Child and Billy have long since departed for a happier home. Indeed there are more bulldogs in existence at the present time than has ever previously been the case in our history.

Mr. Boynton's bulldogs were typical specimens, and one or two of them would have passed muster to-day. There is a white one with erect ears; another lying down, white with a patch, with rose ears; the third—the best of the bunch—a dark brindle and white with fair ears, but not so heavy and cumbersome in body, head, and limbs as is the case with the modern type. Perhaps from these dogs came the historical Crib and Rosa, pictures of which are seen in almost all the print shops, and the original of which was published in 1817. There are many pictures of bulldogs extant. One of the best I know is a coloured print of three bulldogs in Sydenham Edward's work on "The Dog," published in London, August, 1800. Bingley in his "Natural History" gives us a big white dog with a patch on him, not unlike some of the best specimens of to-day, especially in body. The "Sportsman's Cabinet," 1803, furnishes the portrait of a dark brindled and white dog with a gaily carried stern, erect ears, and, to our educated minds of the nineteenth century, but a half-bred animal at the best. Reinagle painted

this dog, but it is not so good a specimen as any one of those by Chalon, already alluded to.

The picture of a bulldog in Youatt's book (1845) is peculiar, to say the least. It represents a white dog as big as a mastiff, with bowed legs, a "roach" back, short whip tail, and cow-shaped hocks. Still, he looks strong enough to pin a bull. However, about that time considerable attention was being given to the production of the British bulldog, but there was little material to work on, though there were enthusiasts in the cause who mostly lived in London and in other large manufacturing centres. When dog shows began to exist, an impetus was given to all varieties of the canine race, the bulldog amongst the rest. Jemmy Shaw had kept some of the best blood in London; and old Ben White, who preceded the celebrated Bill George in his kennels at Kensal Town; Jacob Lamphier, of Birmingham; Charlie Stockdale, William M'Donald, London; James Hinks, Reeves, and Mr. Percivall, of Birmingham; Mr. Ashburne, Mr. Turton, all gave them attention, and to such men as these—if most of them were dealers—we owe what good bulldogs there are at the present time.

There is extant a very curious printed description of the bull dog which was drawn up by Mr.

Wickens, of London, who signed himself "Philokuon." It was published in 1865, and being of considerable interest, as well as the foundation from which the present description by the Bulldog Club of to-day is drawn, it is worth reproducing here. The original sheet, which is scarce and is headed by the Royal Arms, reads as follows :

THE BRITISH BULLDOG (*Canis pugnax*).

The British Bulldog is a majestic, ancient animal, very scarce, much maligned, and, as a rule, very little understood. If treated with kindness, often noticed, and frequently with his master, he is a quiet and tractable dog; but if kept chained up and little noticed he becomes less sociable and docile, and if excited and made savage he is a most dangerous animal. He is generally an excellent guard, an extraordinary water dog, and very valuable to cross with terriers, pointers, hounds, greyhounds, &c., to give them courage and endurance. He is the boldest and most resolute of animals. The gamecock is a courageous bird, but he will only attack his own species; but there is nothing a good bulldog will not attack, and ever brave and unappalled, with matchless courage he will give up only with life itself. This noble dog becomes degenerate abroad—in truth he is a national animal, and is perfectly identified with Old England, and he is a dog of which Englishmen may be proud.

PROPERTIES.

No. 1. The *Head* should be large and high, that is, with elevation about the temples and deeply sunken between the eyes, which indentation is termed "The Stop." This "stop" should extend some distance up the head. The skin of the head should be wrinkled and the cheeks should extend outwards well beyond the eyes. The forehead of the dog should not be prominent, as



in a King Charles spaniel, and not too round, or it would be "apple headed." The head of a fine dog 50lb. in weight should measure round the thickest part about 20in.

No. 2. The *Eyes* should be wide apart, almost black, of moderate size, rather full than otherwise, round and not deeply set. The line of the eyes should be at right angles with the line of the face and the eyes placed quite in front of the head, as far from the ear and as near the nose as possible.

No. 3. The *Ears* should be small, thin, and wide apart. They should be either "rose," "button," or "tulip." The "rose" ear falls backwards while the ends lap over outwards, exposing part of the inside. The "button" ear differs from the "rose" only in falling over forwards, which hides the interior. The "tulip" ear is nearly erect. These are the only distinct sorts of ear, but there are various grades between them, and sometimes one almost merges into the other, for the dog does not always carry them in the same manner; as, for instance, the ear which is naturally a "rose" ear may become a "tulip" ear when the animal is excited.

No. 4. The *Nostrils* should be wide, and the nose large and almost between the eyes, and black and deep—thus: taking the depth of the nose and the length from the eye to the end of the nose, the distance ought to be about the same. There should be a well-defined line straight up between the nostrils. The best bred dogs will be liable to flesh or spotted noses; this is a blemish but no sign of bad breeding; true bred bulldogs will occasionally have flesh-coloured noses.

No. 5. The *Muzzle* should be broad, deep, and short, with the skin deeply wrinkled, and underhung, but not showing the teeth; for if the mouth be even they are termed "shark-headed," which is considered a very bad point. The underjaw should be square and *well* upturned, with plenty of space in a nearly straight line for the six small front teeth in the lower jaw between the tusks. This is an important point because it denotes width and squareness of underjaw.



No. 6. The *Neck* should be moderate in length, thick, and arched at the back with plenty of loose wrinkled skin about the throat. The *Ribs* should be well rounded, and the *Chest* wide, deep, and rounded. The *Tail* should be inserted rather low down; thick where it joins the body, long and thin, and turned round at the end, in which case it is termed a "ring" or "tiger" tail, similar to that of the greyhound, but shorter. The perfect tail in the print of Mr. Lovell's Ball, and the tail nearest approaching that is the nearest to perfection. "The tail thin and taper, curling over the back or hanging down, termed tiger-tailed, rarely erected except when the passions of the animal are aroused," *vide* "Cynographia Britannica," A.D. 1800.

No. 7. The *Back* should be short and arched in the loins, termed "roach-backed," wide across the shoulders, and narrow across the loins. The roach back is shown in perfection in the print of "Crib and Rosa"; Rosa's shape is perfect.

No. 8. The *Legs*: The fore legs should be stout, with well marked calves, bowed outwards, short and very wide apart. The hind legs should be slightly lower in proportion than the fore legs, so as to elevate the loins. The hocks should approach each other, which involves the stifles being turned outwards, and well rounded, which seems to obstruct the dog's speed in running, but is admirably adapted to progressive motion when combating on his belly. The *Feet* should be moderately round; not so round as a cat's, nor so long as a hare's feet, but should be well split up between the toes. The fore feet should be straight, and should show the knuckles well. The pasterns should be strong, that the dog may walk well on his toes.

No. 9. The *Coat* should be fine, short, and close. The bulldog has a very peculiar carriage, heavy and rather slow. He rolls very much in his gait, and generally runs rather sideways; his hind legs are seldom lifted very high, so that his hind feet (which, like the stifles, are turned outwards) appear to skim the ground.

No. 10. The *Colour* should be salmon, fallow, red, brindled, or white with these colours variously pied. The salmon and

fallow with black muzzles called "smuts" are choice colours. Some greatly admire the white, but a bright salmon with black muzzle would be the choicest of all colours. Black was formerly considered a good colour, but black-and-tan and blue are very bad colours. There is a strong resemblance between a brindled bulldog and a striped hyena.

No. 11. *Weight.* A bulldog seldom weighs more than 60lb. If larger he may be suspected of the mastiff cross. On the other hand, he ought not to be less than 20lb. in weight, or he may be suspected of being crossed with the terrier. The large bulldogs are grand and more striking in their proportion than the smaller ones.

PHILO-KUON.

*London, February, 1865.*

I think there is little doubt that from the time of J. Lamphier's King Dick—a red smut dog of about 48lb. in weight, and certainly the best of his day, who was whelped in 1858, and died when eight years old, bull dogs began to increase in popularity. There is a photograph extant of Jacob Lamphier and his celebrated dog, and, although the latter is sitting on its haunches, we can easily see that he was an active animal with sound limbs and with nothing abnormal about him. Until within about a dozen years or more ago we had many excellent bulldogs which were of different type to some of the leading modern creatures. They were active animals, such as could run after a dogcart, or, perhaps, pin a bull if required. The craze for breeding for exaggerated points—huge

skulls and heads, unduly low fore quarters, with shoulders set on at right angles, and standing wider in front than the bull himself—was not so pronounced as it came to be later on. Take, for instance, such dogs as King Dick (already alluded to), Crib (known as Turton's Crib, a brindle and white dog of 64lb. weight, and as good an all-round specimen as was ever produced), Mr. P. Eden's Bend Or, Captain Houldsworth's Sir Anthony, Mr. T. Verrinder's Slenderman, Mr. J. H. Joyce's Bacchus, Bumble (known as the penny show dog, because he was first exhibited at a penny show in Birmingham), Mr. Shirley's Sancho Panza, Mr. Oliver's Monarch, Jesse Oswell's Dan, Mr. R. J. Hartley's Venom, and many more good, sound, and active bulldogs could be named which flourished within the teens of years prior to about 1882. It may be interesting to know that the stuffed remains of Turton's Crib were in the possession of Mr. E. Farman, of London, and accompanying them is a collar bearing the following inscription: "Crib, born December 27th, 1870. Died, unbeaten, May 24th, 1880. The property of Thomas B. Turton, West Lodge, Sheffield."

In the "good old days," about Sheffield and Birmingham, dishonest practices were in force, which were said to improve the face and muzzle of the

bulldog. Ingenious contrivances called "jacks" were fixed on to the muzzle in such a manner as to drive the nose back. Sometimes, too, the ears were cut, and the case of the disqualification of Monarch when shown by Mr. D. S. Oliver at Birmingham, in 1880, is not yet forgotten. Monarch had been shown successfully the year before, and was again awarded similar honours. After the judging, attention was called to the dog's ears, upon which were found certain marks which led to the animal's disqualification. Subsequent inquiry took place, and at a meeting held on December 16 several experts were unanimous in their opinion that the marks had been wilfully made whilst the dog was in the show, and Mr. Oliver was exonerated from all blame in the matter. He, however, took the dastardly action so much to heart as to completely sever his connection with the bulldog "fancy." Another dog of note known to be "faked" was F. Lamphier's Tiger, for which Mr. George Raper gave £45, well aware of the defects of his purchase, but he considered him cheap at the money for breeding purposes.

About this time, which may be called the middle period of the modern bulldog, Mr. F. Adcock—a most earnest admirer of the race—was upon the scene, and sometimes he had thirty or forty bulldogs

in his kennels. He had an opinion that the British bulldog was degenerating physically and otherwise. He believed that the original bulldog was a heavy animal, and, as he could not find one to his liking in this country, took a journey into Spain. As the West had produced the wise men, so it was said Spain had produced the best dogs. Mr. Adcock brought back with him an immense animal, which he called Toro.

Now this dog was not so "black" as many persons painted him. Mr. Adcock had been yearning after big bulldogs, and even his great dog Ajax, which scaled 65lb., and was good enough to win at Birmingham in 1872, did not satisfy him. So, as before hinted, he went to Spain to seek for a bigger animal, with the result above stated. However likely Toro was to improve the bulldogs of this country, and his appearance led one to believe that he would do so, at stud he proved a complete failure. This was unfortunate, for then, an introduction of new blood would have been very useful, especially so far as improving the activity and strength of the modern article. And Toro was an active dog. He may have been a "flake" somehow or other, for if his parents, or one of them, or his uncles or aunts, or grandparents had been as good as he, he must have got better stock than was actually the case.



Although Toro, who was 90lb. in weight, did not transmit any of his excellent qualities to his descendants, I should say that heavy weight bulldogs are more numerous now than was the case when he flourished. At the leading shows we see some dozen bulldogs or more that vary from 55lb. to 65lb. in weight, and these big dogs, which usually have special classes provided for them, if not proportionately so massive in head as the medium-sized animals, are, as a rule, more active on their legs and smarter generally in their movements. Of course, in dwelling so much on the matter of activity, I do not mean to infer that a bulldog should be as lithe and smart in his action as a fox terrier. Still, he must be able to walk and run a bit, which he does with a peculiar roll, which is all his own.

About the same period that Mr. Adcock was proving unsuccessful in producing bulldogs as big and active as he desired, others were working away on a somewhat different line, and with greater success. These were, in addition to those already named who came earlier, Messrs. Bill Page, Frank Redmond, Rivers Wilson, and Billy Shaw, of London; Messrs. Peter Eden and John Henshall, of Manchester; John Ashburne, "Gentleman" Brown, Mr. W. H. Tyser, Mr. R. Fulton, Mr. T. Verrinder, Mr. H. Layton, Mr. J. W. Gurney, with Messrs. R. J. Lloyd



Price, S. E. Shirley, G. Raper, G. A. Benjamin, J. W. Berrie (who had done so much to popularise his favourite that when the Bulldog Club was formed he was elected life president), J. Ure, Dundee; H. Munro, Hull, &c. At one time or another, and during a period extending over almost two generations, the British bulldog must be indebted to the above gentlemen for the position and excellence it holds at the present time.

Some of them were dealers, others were amateurs; but all worked with the same object in view, and, I should say, have attained their end. Jacob Lamphier at one time had the lead, and, at any rate, he made his mark by possessing two such good dogs as King Dick, already alluded to, and Romanie, the latter purchased by Mr. Lloyd Price for £150—an enormous sum then for a bulldog, as it is now. Unfortunately, Mr. Price was not so successful as he deserved, for, after winning first prize at Birmingham in 1865, on his journey to the next show poor Romanie was found smothered in the guard's van. F. Lamphier's Crib (brindled), Jesse Oswell's Dan (a white dog, particularly handsome for a bulldog), Mr. John Henshall's Duke (another white dog, bred by the Duke of Hamilton), Mr. R. Fulton's Falstaff, Mr. Lloyd Price's Michael the Archangel (also a white dog, and historical in his

way because eaten during the siege of Paris in 1871), Mr. Clement Butler's Stead, Mr. Henshall's Juno, Mr. F. Lamphier's Meg and Rush, Mr. G. A. Dawes' Maggie Lauder, Mr. Verrinder's Poll, were about the best specimens that flourished from thirty to forty years ago, and there are few modern bulldogs which do not contain their strain.

The following is a list of the prominent dogs of recent years, with the names of their owners:—Mr. A. Benjamin's Britomartis; the late Mr. Pybus Sellon's Diogenes and Mischief; Mr. Charles's Dimboola, which was reported as having been sold for, at that time, the record price of £275; Mr. J. H. Ellis's Grabber, Guido, and Saleni; Mr. Sam Woodiwiss's British Monarch, Dryad, Blackberry, Forceps, Baron Sedgemere, and Boaz; Mr. Guy Boothby's Monkey Brand; Mr. Farman's Ruling Passion and Cigarette; Mr. J. W. Ross's Blackwall Beauty; Mr. A. F. Williams's Boomerang; Mr. G. G. Tod's King Solomon, Queen of Sheba, and Exodus; Mr. Marfleet's Bromley Crib, and his brother, Black Watch, sold in 1898 for the highest price ever paid for a bulldog, viz., £300; Mr. Raper's Rustic King, Rustic Model, and Ivel Rustic; Mr. J. B. Joel's Bicester Beauty; Mr. H. Wright's Don Perseus; Mrs. C. B. Evans, Ivel Doctor; Mr. A. J. Sewell's Queer Street; Mr.

Ford's Catalana and Don Salano; Mr. R. J. Hartley's Venom; Mr. W. J. Pegg's Don Cervantes; Mr. Cyril Jackson's Carthusian Abbess and Carthusian Model; Mr. Beresford Hope's Bedgebury Lion, with Mr. Deane Willis's Bapton Monarch, Dr. Harrison Coates's Hucknall Prince, and Mr. Shirley's Mazer are, probably, the best representatives at the present day of the old bull-baiting and powerfully athletic type of bygone times.

So much for some of the most notable dogs I have known, and, however incomplete the list may be, it is, at any rate, sufficient to prove that the British bulldog is not in any danger of becoming extinct, so far as this country is concerned. If further proof of the popularity of the bulldog were needed, such will be found in the carefully compiled volumes of bulldog pedigrees, the editors of which—Messrs. Cyril Jackson and E. H. Bowers—tell us they have catalogued the names of about 6000 bulldogs. The difficulty of tracing the pedigrees of many of these may be inferred from the fact that the first volume contains no fewer than sixty-five bulldogs that bear or have borne the well-known name of Crib. In 1895 Mr. Robert Fulton, an earnest admirer of the bulldog, published a volume dealing with his favourites, a gossipy, readable work which tells us something about the early fanciers in

London, much of which is not entirely to their credit. The story of the poisoning of his bulldog Jock, who was matched to kill rats after he had on more than one occasion beaten dogs of Billy Shaw's, speaks for itself. The last match Jock again won, but on being taken home was found to be in great pain. He died next morning from poison which it was afterwards discovered had been placed upon some of the rats which poor Jock killed.

A word must be said as to certain matters relating to the variety which have caused considerable difference of opinion amongst admirers of the bulldog, and first and foremost comes the question of so-called "Dudley faces." Dogs that have flesh-coloured noses, with which light-coloured eyes and generally yellowish-looking countenances are often associated, are called "Dudley" because such animals originally came from that part of the Black Country known as Dudley, which is in Worcestershire. Personally, where a dog is otherwise good, I would not disqualify him for his Dudley markings; but I must confess to be in the minority whilst holding such an opinion. Then occasionally split-nosed or double-nosed bulldogs are met with, and where such is the case I would do no more than severely handicap the dog bearing the blemish. As a fact, I would far rather have a Dudley marked or

split-nosed dog that could move well, than the most perfectly faced bulldog in the world whose locomotion is about equal to the pace of a man with gout in both feet.

From time to time the bulldog has been used as a cross, with an idea of putting extra courage in other varieties of the dog which it was thought required pluck to a greater extent than they possessed in their purity. This has in part only proved successful, and I should say where it was tried in the case of greyhounds proved entirely unsatisfactory. With the terrier it has been more useful, resulting in the modern bull terrier—a handsome white dog, which for gameness, good nature, and adaptability as a companion has no superior.

As a sporting animal—*i.e.*, as a vermin destroyer, and as a hunter after hares or rabbits—our bulldog is not generally applicable. Not that he is quite without the use of the ordinary olfactory organs, for he can hunt the footsteps of his master pretty well as cleverly as any other dog, but they are not so fully developed as in the case of hounds, terriers, &c. Still, Charles St. John, in his "Highland Sports," tells of a hunting bulldog that was once in his possession which usually accompanied him on his stalking excursions and was extremely useful in

hunting and bringing to bay or killing a wounded stag.

Mr. F. Adcock says that some of his bulldogs would hunt a hedgerow as well as a terrier, and were equally as good at retrieving from water, and doubtless very many other bulldogs could do the same, provided they are not of an ultra unwieldy type and are given the opportunity, which, perhaps, is too seldom accorded them.

The bulldog, which has obtained such an evil character for ferocity, may, under proper training and surroundings, become as companionable as any other dog. He is very faithful to his master, and his appearance is certainly worse than his disposition. When he has the chance he is quite as sociable as most dogs, his temper is reliable, and, on the show bench, he may be petted and caressed by the stranger with far less likelihood of being bitten than would be the case with the terriers and collies. Then he is not addicted to barking too much, is not liable to run away, when kept in the country, on hunting excursions; but he is not built on the proper lines to follow a dog cart or run after a bicycle.

So far as companionship with man is concerned the bulldog's lot has not always been a happy one. In his early days, as I have said, he was kept for



the purposes of bull-baiting, it being a popular fallacy that "bull beef" was tenderer and more palatable when cut from a bull that had been made angry and worried by dogs. As a fact, in some localities such meat was not allowed to be displayed for sale without being labelled "bull beef," unless the animal from which it came had been "baited" prior to being slaughtered. In modern days the bull dog is valued for amusement and for show purposes, and when making his living on the benches he is, in nine cases out of ten, kept in a kennel along with other dogs of the same breed, and seldom given the social advantages which fall to the more fortunate St. Bernard, terrier, or collie.

One thing there always will be against the actual popularity of the bulldog, and that is the great difficulty there is in breeding first-rate specimens, and, with very few exceptions, our best bitches are wretched mothers, in some cases refusing to breed at all, in others failing to suckle the puppies, and often the puppies are born dead. In-breeding, huge heads, and malformation of the chest and the forelegs are no doubt responsible for this state of things.

There has been much correspondence during the past year (1897) relating to the exaggeration of the points of the bulldog, and there is no doubt that,

although the characteristics of the bulldog (as indeed of any breed) should be fully maintained, yet the emphasizing of such to an abnormal degree, causing any deformity or in any way interfering with the activity of the dog, should be avoided by breeders and discountenanced by judges. It has even been suggested that some "fanciers" confine bull pups, keeping them chained up till a year old, in such a small space that their shoulders grow to an abnormal shape and the dog acquires such an unnaturally squat and low configuration that deformity would be a mild term to apply to it. Incredible and discreditable as such treatment undoubtedly is, the writer knows for a fact that it has been in several instances resorted to, and, bearing out this, specimens are, or were, continually seen on the show bench with the unwieldy walk of cripples instead of the activity of strength, which, without doubt, a true and healthy bulldog should have, and this is fair evidence of the truth of the above imputation or indictment.

Since bull baiting has ceased to exist as a pastime, the principal occupation of the bulldog is gone, but it is manifest that in this sport a dog possessing any deformity or crippledness to hinder or impair his movements would stand a very poor chance of success if opposed to a sturdy

shorthorn or Highland bull. Though we know that a bulldog's shoulders should be "*outside*" it is absurd to see this characteristic carried out to such an extent as to actually be a source of weakness. It is regrettable that many valuable points of the bulldog seem to have disappeared of late to make room for the various undesirable features of modern development. How seldom we see nowadays a true roach back combined with a low set stern and "cut-up" flank, and yet from this very peculiarity must have arisen the power of the bulldog to make the spring when crawling up to confront the bull. Again, it has always been held that the legs of the bulldog should be straight in the bone, but the development of muscle in the calf should suggest a bandy leg. Many, indeed, of the show specimens have the bandy legs which are not out of place on the modern dachshund, but we find, on examination, that in most cases in the bulldog it is the bone that is actually curved (whether from confinement or in-breeding it is hard to say), and, still worse, it is frequently accompanied by a weakness of pasterns causing the feet to turn outwards in a manner most highly to be condemned.

The small neat "*rose*" ear is almost a scarcity nowadays, and the majority of ears, though folding correctly, are decidedly big and heavy, and what is

worse is that many prizes are awarded to dogs with actually "*button*" ears, which eyesore points distinctly to a cross with the mastiff or pug. The projecting teeth, so often seen even in noted prize winners (though vastly preferable to any approach to "frogginess") is a feature that not many years back would have handicapped a dog most heavily.

The features which made up the peculiar appearance of the old style bulldog, and which stamped him as the athlete *par excellence* among dogs, have, it seems, been sacrificed to secure lowness in front, combined with an excessive width and shoulders so exaggerated as to be a deformity. The "dreadnought" or even aggressive expression (though not necessarily fierce) that used to exist in the old bulldog has been replaced by a countenance that might almost be termed mild, and no longer calculated to strike terror into the heart of the evil-doer. If what is sought after nowadays is a dog that will make a nice drawing-room pet or to keep in a kennel entirely for show bench purposes, then the *fin-de-siècle* production is a total success and a triumph of scientific breeding—still, it but buffoons its ancient ancestry. If, on the other hand, a stalwart companion is wanted, ready for anything that turns up, breeders should try and get back the points that predominated in the powerful bulldog of

yore and which made him celebrated throughout the world as the emblem of our realm.

The principle collection of bulldogs to be found in this country is the exhibition periodically held by the Bulldog Club (established in 1875), who held their twenty-fifth gathering in 1898. Here an entry of something like a couple of hundred is usually found, containing, no doubt, all the best dogs of the day. The classification is particularly complete, and includes divisions for dogs 45lb. weight and over; classes for bitches 35lb. weight and over, and light weight classes below the above standards. There are divisions for dogs over 55lb., for bitches over 45lb.; for dogs between these two weights and for bitches between 35lb. and 45lb.; others for dogs under 45lb. weight and for bitches under 35lb. Such is the usual weight classification, but there are other divisions provided in which no weight is stipulated. The Bulldog Club has also four challenge cups, two of them worth fifty guineas each, two of the value of twenty guineas each, and a goodly number of members are on its books.

The British Bulldog Club, established in 1892, already a strong body, is likewise great in special prizes, having two £50 challenge vases and two £25 cups, and two 10-guinea goblets for puppies. Both clubs are well to do as far as membership is

concerned, and in other particulars, whilst each has carefully drawn up a distinct description of what a bulldog should be.

For the following very complete description of a typical bulldog I am indebted to Mr. Cyril F. W. Jackson, of Teignmouth, who also kindly assisted me in the early portion of the chapter.

"In judging a bulldog the general appearance is of all importance, for, though it is of course necessary to give each point in detail, still the eye once accustomed to the impression made by the appearance of a dog of this breed true to type, will almost unconsciously recognise the following salient points. The immense skull, the protruding under jaw, the grotesque facial angle, to be seen in no other breed, the massive neck, and the extraordinary disproportion of the girth of the brisket as compared with that of the waist, the prodigious width of chest, the shortness of the body, the roach back, the shortness from the elbow to the pastern, the malformation of the tail, and, lastly, the disparity in weight of the fore part with that of the hind, all contributing to build up a dog, probably presenting to the casual observer more individuality than any other breed, save perhaps a bloodhound or a basset hound. The habit of some judges of allowing themselves to be biassed by one point of superexcellence in the



specimen they have to pass their opinion on, is distinctly wrong, as a show specimen should be of uniform merit throughout, and should not excel in one point more than another.

“ The head is one of the important characteristics of the variety ; its appearance should be one of striking massiveness in proportion to the animal's size as well as compared with that of any other animal. It cannot be too large so long as it be square, that is to say, it must not be wider than it is deep ; it should be of great depth from the occiput to the base of the lower jaw, of as great circumference as possible, squarely shaped, and must not be in any degree wedge shaped, dome shaped, or peaked. Of course the head of a female is never as large or so well developed as that of the male, and this remark applies to nearly every point throughout. The jaws should be broad, massive, square, and powerful. The lower jaw should project considerably beyond the upper jaw, though I regret that this point is by no means insisted upon by many judges, as some notable prize winners lately have been almost level jawed.

“ Whilst casting history to the winds, it appears to me that points emblematic of the now obsolete function should be preserved, and it is very certain that a protruding under jaw was a point very strongly

insisted on by old time breeders, as it enabled their dogs to breathe whilst pinning the bull's nose. It must be admitted that when carried to excess this feature is very unsightly on the show bench, which probably accounts for the growing tendency to countenance 'froggy' specimens. The face, by which is meant all that part of the animal which is in front of the eye, should be extremely short, with broad truncated muzzle, distinctly inclined upwards, which must occur if the formation of the lower jaw is correct. By the expression 'froggy' is meant a dog with level jaws, that is to say, not underhung, though in some few cases it even amounts to being overshot. The terms 'wry faced' or 'twisted jawed' are synonymous, and denote that the lower jaw has the appearance of being contorted. This deformity, though a great eyesore, does not exist in the bone, but in the soft structures forming the lower half of the face. I have proved this by examining the skulls of 'wry faced' dogs, in none of which was there assymetry. I believe this 'wry face' to be caused by injury at the time of the birth of the puppy, and that it is not hereditary.

"The face should be broad in proportion to the skull, otherwise the animal is called 'pinched faced,' and deep through the muzzle, or otherwise the animal is what is called 'monkey-faced.'

When viewed in profile it should appear as if the tip of the nose would just touch an imaginary straight line drawn from the extremity of the lower lip to the frontal eminence between the brows. The bones of the lower jaw in specimens which have the desired appearance, known as 'upturn' and 'lay back,' are found to have the contour of a segment of a circle. No other colour looks well for the lips than black, and nothing spoils the appearance of a white dog so much as not having entirely black lips.

"The upper lip, called the 'chop,' should be very thick and deep, hanging completely over the lower jaw at the sides, but only just joining the lower lip in front, yet quite covering the teeth, otherwise the dog is said 'to grin.' On the thickness of the 'chop' depends the amount of 'cushion,' a point very much sought after by modern exhibitors. Some, however, are of opinion that it is very undesirable to have the chops large to the point of being pendulous. For my part I think that the appearance of a dog is enhanced by very deep chops, so long as they are of a good thickness; but what spoils the appearance of a dog is having long thin chops like a bloodhound's flews. The teeth should be large and strong, the tusks should be wide apart, the front teeth between the tusks should be regular, which they very rarely are, and in most

bulldogs the incisors of the lower jaw are mere apologies for teeth.

“The nose must lie well back, the tip being set nearly back to the ‘stop,’ and should be broad, large, deep, and perfectly black. Of all the bulldogs I have seen, all have had smooth noses if they have been in health, and the only authority I know of who admires a rough nose in a bulldog is Mr. Frank Adcock. The nostrils should be large and wide, with a well-defined straight line visible between them; but a split septum or nostril may be taken as an absolute disqualification under any judge nowadays, and what is very much more common is a defect in one wing of the nose, which makes the two nostrils dissimilar, and is looked upon by many judges as a serious blemish. A parti-coloured nose, which is called a ‘butterfly nose,’ handicaps the animal, while few judges would have the temerity to place a dog with a ‘Dudley’ or flesh-coloured nose in the prize list.

“What is known as the ‘stop’ is the indentation in the bone at the junction of the forehead and the face. It is a point of great importance, and should be very deep. From this ‘stop’ there should be a deep, broad furrow, extending upwards between the brows, gradually disappearing when the occiput is reached.

“The expression ‘well broken up’ is used where this ‘stop’ and furrow are well marked, which, if accompanied with a quantity of loose and well-wrinkled skin about the head give the animal’s expression style and finish. The term ‘lay back’ is often confused with what is meant by ‘stop.’ ‘Lay back’ is the facial angle, and can only be properly ascertained by viewing the dog side face, whereas ‘stop’ can only be appreciated looking a dog full in the face, or, better still, by feeling the skull with one’s two thumbs. The brows should be prominent, square, broad and high. The occiput should be flat from ear to ear; the forehead large but flat, not overhanging the face, and of great breadth when compared with the height from the nasal bone to the occiput. The cheeks rounded, extending laterally beyond the eyes, and the cheek bumps well defined—points which probably are not fully developed until the third year.

“There is only one style of ear admitted by judges as being correct nowadays, and that is the shape known as ‘rose,’ which, by the way it is folded, laps in an outward direction, exposing some part of the burr of the ear. The most objectionable form of ear is undoubtedly the ‘button,’ in which the tip falls forward, hiding the inside of the ear, as with fox terriers. What I consider a far less

objectionable ear is the pricked or 'tulip' ear, because until quite recent years all the best specimens had them, and, moreover, in many cases they merely betoken a very large development of muscle in the jaw, whereas the 'button' ear, being invariably a coarse one, is diametrically opposite to what is by general consent required, viz., smallness and thinness. The ears must be placed at the top edges of the skull, far from the eyes, and wide apart, so as to give an appearance of breadth to the skull between them, but if they are placed too low there is always a slight look of 'appleheadedness.'

"A good deal of a bulldog's appearance depends on whether his ears are correct or not, though most writers appear to treat the subject as an unimportant one, contenting themselves by simply saying they should be dark. First, as regards position, they should be placed low down, but quite in front of the forehead, as far from the ears, from the nose, and from each other as possible so long as their outer corners are within the outline of the cheeks. They must be at right angles to the furrow before described, and only a little above the level of the base of the nasal bone. They should be quite round, fairly large, neither sunken nor protruding, and intensely dark, showing no white when looking directly forward; in fact, in the correct bulldog eye



the dark brown colour of the iris seems to have run into the sclerotic, which fact accounts in some measure for the white of the eye not being seen.

“There is another phenomenon very typical of the breed which deserves notice, and that is an indescribable dark blue glare, seen especially when a bulldog is excited. I believe that the best word to express this is opalescence. The light hazel or yellow eyes that are now becoming prevalent are to be deprecated, there being a strong connection between them and Dudley noses. The deformity known as ‘wall-eyed,’ *i.e.*, one eye of a lighter colour than the other, or eyes in which the iris is whitish, very light grey, or defective in colour, or eyes in which the whites are very large or distorted, is now very rarely seen, probably because it has been so persistently stamped out for many years.

“What is required in the neck is that it should be thick set, deep, muscular, and short, but of sufficient length to display an arch. The more it is furnished with thick loose skin forming a double dewlap for some distance downwards from the under jaw, the greater is the degree of character imparted to the dog. The ribs should be of great depth and breadth, being well sprung, and should come far down between the fore legs to give ample

space for the lungs and heart. The chests of many specimens lately exhibited have been of amazing width, an appearance added to by the immense development of the deltoid muscles, and this is certainly a point in the breed which every owner is anxious to produce even to exaggeration. Unless the shoulder blades are put on low, it is obviously impossible to obtain the desired width across the chest, therefore in good specimens it is found that the tops of the shoulder blades are never touching or even close together. Contrary to what is required in other breeds, the shoulder blades of a bulldog should slope considerably and not be vertical.

“The belly should be well tucked up, and not pendulous, a small narrow waist being greatly admired, it being a great object to obtain a large circumference just behind the shoulders, and the smallest possible one round the waist, which forms the appearance called ‘cut up.’ The back rises from behind the shoulders in a graceful curve, which curve reaches its summit over the top of the loins, and thence falls away rapidly to the stern, thus forming what is known as the *wheel* or *roach* back, which is essentially a characteristic of the breed, though very often wholly absent from many of the most successful dogs of the present time ; and worse

still is the endeavour to palm off dogs which are "rump high" or "stern high" as being 'roached' backed, whilst the difference is that the 'stern high' dog rises in an almost straight line from behind the shoulder to the setting on of the tail.

"It is very noticeable that bulldogs are bred year by year shorter and shorter in the couplings, entirely replacing the long, low shape of former years by one as compact as possible. The tail should be set on low, deflecting slightly downwards, moderately short, thick at the root, tapering quickly to a fine point, should be devoid of 'feather,' not curved upwards at the end, called '*ring tailed*,' and should be incapable of being raised above the level of the backbone, which is called a 'gay' carriage, a feat only possible to such tails as have no '*kinks*' (kinks are really congenital dislocations of the joints of the tail). The screw tails, which are so peculiar to the breed, are objected to by a few authorities as indicating excessive in-breeding, an assumption which I venture to doubt.

"Of the limbs and feet the forelegs should be as wide apart as possible, very thick, stout, and strong, straight, and short. This great strength, muscularity, and immense bone are innovations of modern times, as our forefathers who kept bulldogs apparently were satisfied with limbs no thicker than

pipe stems. How much of this abnormal growth of bone is the result of rickets in puppyhood it is hard to say.

"Here again is evidence of a departure from what was admired, and sought after, but a very few years ago. I refer to what was called 'a pear-shaped front,' an expression which signified that the dog's chest across the shoulders when viewed from in front was very wide, that his fore legs appeared as if bowed, and that his pasterns nearly touched. But such a conformation is now denounced by nearly every judge of the breed, though I myself regret that 'pear-shaped fronts' are now deprecated so strongly. I admit that a dog so formed is bound to have a 'wobbly' action when travelling, but it was a characteristic of the breed. Further, it had this advantage, that a dog so shaped in front was always allowed to stand naturally in the ring, whereas nowadays it is quite common to see dogs with their front legs deliberately propped as far apart as possible by their owners in the judging ring, so much so that judges have to lift dogs gently off the ground in front by their chain and collar, so as to allow their front legs to assume a natural position. The bitch Ruling Passion, and the dog Royal Rogue, were typical specimens of the 'pear-shaped front.'"

"The elbows should be set on low, turned outwards, standing well away from the ribs, so as to permit the body to swing between them, and giving the legs the appearance of being loosely tacked on the sides of the body. It is probable that the great depth of the ribs between the forelegs makes the forelegs look shorter than they really are. The thick covering of muscle which is found on the outside of the forelegs of many of the most typical dogs conveys a suspicion of bow leggedness, which would be a great fault. The knee in an adult animal is hidden by a thick coating of flesh and muscle. The pasterns should be short, stout, straight, upright, and strong, not everted so much as in many of the wide-chested but knock-kneed dogs. The fore feet straight, round, rather large, not turning inwards in the least, and turning outwards only very slightly, with toes thick, compact, and well split up to the knuckles, the latter being prominent and high.

"The hind legs, though of slighter build than the forelegs, should be strong and muscular; they are distinctly larger than the forelegs, so as to elevate the loins above the level of the top of the shoulders. The stifles should by their covering of muscle appear rounded, and should stand slightly away from the body, thus inclining the hocks inward and

the hind feet outward, but not 'cow hocked,' which is always a sign of bad rearing, and is a serious impediment to freedom of movement. The hocks should be well let down, moderately straight and low, giving great length from the hip to this joint, and making the pastern short, but not so short as those of the fore legs. The hind feet rather smaller than the fore feet, and turned decidedly outward; they are generally supposed to be required round and compact, but, as a matter of fact, are nearly always longer and more hare footed in shape than the fore feet. The toes certainly look best if split up and if the knuckles are prominent.

"The coat should be of fine texture, close and smooth; silky when stroked from head towards tail and hard, owing to its closeness, but not wiry when stroked in the reverse direction. There have been cases lately where dogs have been shown with peculiarly long hair about the withers, but this is decidedly ugly.

"The colour ought to be brilliant, and preferably should contain one of these colours, either pure or mixed, viz., white, brindle, red fawn, or fallow, but the two last are considered by some as 'weak' colours, and a whole coloured dog is most generally admired. Some authorities maintain that black and tan should absolutely disqualify, though such opinion



has not lately always been upheld; thus a black and tan awarded a prize by one judge has been disqualified by another. It is not possible to dispute a dog being a black and tan if he has 'beauty' and 'kissing' spots. With the exception of black and tan, black and white, black, blue slate, all of which are objectionable, colour is a matter of little importance, and in cases of equal merit in other respects, anyone may be guided by his own fancy. In cases where the predominating colour is white with only small patches of black and tan, I myself see no reason why the dog should be discarded.

"In looking at the symmetry, carriage, and gait of a bulldog from in front, one should be struck by the great breadth and depth of its fore parts, which should gradually taper off to the stern, as the bulldog should present as much as possible to view in front of his shoulders and as little as possible behind them.

"A bulldog in stature should be low on the ground, more so in front than behind, the body being carried between and not on his forelegs. The height of its foreleg, from the ground to the elbow, should not exceed the distance from the elbow to the centre of the back between the shoulder blades. Considerable weight attaches to the freedom and activity displayed by the animal in its movements as

well as the extraordinary roll in its gait ; by activity is meant not that of a terrier but a freedom of movement proportionate to the massiveness of the animal's formation, and, although there is a peculiarly constrained manner of gait natural to the breed, which is caused by the big, heavy head, chest, and shoulders, and by the greater height of the hind legs as compared with that of the forelegs, still, surely it is not too much to expect an animal whose progenitors were capable of performing great deeds of daring and endurance, unless deserving of being called a cripple, to be able at least to follow his master in his daily walks. Anything approaching deformity, weakness, or crippledness is rightly considered highly objectionable, though this point does not appear to be always clearly ascertained.

“ The average weight of bulldogs is now from 40lb. to 50lb., and of bull bitches 35lb. to 45lb., but dogs have been shown as heavy as 65lb. within the past few years.

“ In disposition the bulldog is never treacherous ; if he is savage there is no disguise of the fact, and he is then a very undesirable possession. If well brought up he is the best of companions, safe with children, and most forgiving of their tricks, capable of being taught to retrieve by land or water, and by his perfect manners ingratiating himself in any

household. That most dogs are impulsive and impetuous at any sudden emergency there is no doubt, but they are easily restrained, and obey commands. A bulldog without animation, apparently disregarding insult or injury, is a pitiable object."

The numerical points would be as follows :

	Value.		Value.
Skull, head, and face...	15	Gait .....	5
Ears .....	10	Size .....	5
Shoulders and chest ...	15	Coat .....	5
Legs and feet .....	10	Colour .....	5
Hindquarters and stern	10	General appearance ...	10
Body and back .....	10		—
	70		30

*Grand Total 100.*

Following the precedent I have formed in other chapters, I give the description the leading specialist club (the Bulldog Club) have issued of their special variety :

"In forming a judgment on any specimen of the breed, the general appearance—which is the first impression the dog makes as a whole on the eye of the judge—should be first considered.

"Secondly should be noticed its size, shape, and make, or rather its proportions in the relation they bear to each other. (No point should be so much

in excess of the others as to destroy the general symmetry, or make the dog appear deformed, or interfere with its powers of motion, &c.) Thirdly, his style, carriage, gait, temper, and his several points should be considered separately in detail, as follows, due allowance being made for the bitch, which is not so grand or as well developed as the dog :—

“ 1. The general appearance of the bulldog is that of a smooth-coated, thick-set dog, rather low in stature, but broad, powerful, and compact. Its head strikingly massive, and large in proportion to the dog's size. Its face extremely short. Its muzzle very broad, blunt, and inclined upwards. Its body short and well-knit; the limbs stout and muscular. Its hind quarters very high and strong, but rather lightly made in comparison with its heavily made foreparts. The dog conveys an impression of determination, strength, and activity similar to that suggested by the appearance of a thick-set Ayrshire or Highland bull.

“ 2. The skull should be very large—the larger the better—and in circumference should measure (round in front of the ears) at least the height of the dog at the shoulders. Viewed from the front, it should appear very high from the corner of the lower jaw to the apex of the skull, and also very broad and square. The cheeks should be well

rounded and extended sideways beyond the eyes. Viewed at the side, the head should appear very high, and very short from its back to the point of the nose.

“The forehead should be flat, neither prominent, nor over-hanging the face; and the skin upon it and about the head very loose, hanging in large wrinkles.

“3. The temples or frontal bones should be very prominent, broad, square and high, causing a deep and wide groove between the eyes. This indentation is termed the ‘stop,’ and should be both broad and deep, and extend up the middle of the forehead, dividing the head vertically, being traceable at the top of the skull.

“4. The eyes, seen from the front, should be situated low down in the skull, as far from the ears as possible. Their corners should be in a straight line at right angles with the stop, and quite in front with the head. They should be wide apart as possible, provided their outer corners are within the outline of the cheeks. They should be quite round in shape, of moderate size, neither sunken nor prominent, and in colour should be very dark—almost, if not quite black, showing no white when looking directly forward.

“5. The ears should be set high in the head—*i.e.*, the front inner edge of each ear should (as viewed

from the front) join the outline of the skull at the top corner of such outline, so as to place them as wide apart, and as high and as far from the eyes as possible. In size they should be small and thin. The shape termed 'rose ear' is the most correct. The 'rose ear' falls inward at its back, the upper or front edge curving over outwards and backwards showing part of the inside of the burr.

"6. The face, measured from the front of the cheekbone to the nose, should be as short as possible, and its skin should be deeply and closely wrinkled.

"The muzzle should be short, broad, turned upwards, and very deep from the corner of the eye to the corner of the mouth.

"The nose should be large, broad, and black, its top should be deeply set back, almost between the eyes. The distance from the inner corner of the eye (or from the centre of the stop between the eyes) to the extreme tip of the nose should not exceed the length from the tip of the nose to the edge of the under lip.

"The nostrils should be large, wide, and black, with a well-defined straight line between them.

"7. The flews, called the 'chop,' should be thick, broad, pendent, and very deep, hanging completely over the lower jaw at the sides (not in front).



They should join the under lip in front, and quite cover the teeth, which should not be seen when the mouth is closed.

“8. The jaw should be broad, massive, and square, the canine teeth, or tusks, wide apart. The lower jaw should project considerably in front of the upper, and turn up. It should be broad and square, and have the six small front teeth between the canines in an even row.

“The teeth should be large and strong.

“9. The neck should be moderate in length (rather short than long), very thick, deep, and strong. It should be well arched at the back, with much loose, thick, and wrinkled skin about the throat, forming a dewlap on each side from the lower jaw to the chest.

“The chest should be very wide laterally, round, prominent, and deep, making the dog appear very broad and short-legged in front.

“10. The shoulders should be broad, slanting, and deep, very powerful and muscular.

“11. The brisket should be capacious, round, and very deep from the top of the shoulders to its lowest part where it joins the chest, and be well let down between the forelegs. It should be large in diameter, and round behind the fore legs (not flat sided, the ribs being well rounded). The body

should be well ribbed up behind, with the belly tucked up, and not pendulous.

“ 12. The back should be short and strong, very broad at the shoulder, and comparatively narrow at the loins. There should be a slight fall in the back close behind the shoulders (its lowest part), whence the spine should rise to the loins (the top of which should be higher than the top of the shoulders), thence curving again more suddenly to the tail, forming an arch—(a distinctive characteristic of the breed)—termed ‘roach-back,’ or more correctly ‘wheel-back.’

“ 13. The tail, termed the ‘stern,’ should be set on low, jut out rather straight, and then turn downwards, the end pointing horizontally. It should be quite round in its own length, smooth, and devoid of fringe or coarse hair. It should be moderate in length—rather short than long—thick at the root, and tapering quickly to a fine point. It should have a downward carriage (not having a decided upward curve at the end or being screwed or deformed), and the dog should, from its shape, not be able to raise it over its back.

“ 14. The fore legs should be very stout and strong, set wide apart, thick, muscular, and straight, with well-developed calves, presenting a rather bowed outline, but the bones of the legs should be

large and straight, not bandy or curved. They should be rather short in proportion to the hind legs, but not so short as to make the back appear long or detract from the dog's activity, and so cripple him.

"The elbows should be low, and stand well away from the ribs.

"The ankles, or pasterns, should be short, straight, and strong.

"The fore feet should be straight, and turn very slightly outward, of medium size, and moderately round.

"The toes compact and thick, being well split up, making the knuckles prominent and high.

"15. The hind legs should be large and muscular, and larger in proportion than the fore legs, so as to elevate the loins.

"The hocks should be slightly bent and well let down, so as to be long and muscular from the loins to the point of the hock.

"The lower part of the leg should be short, straight, and strong.

"The stifles should be round, and turned slightly outwards away from the body. The hocks are thereby made to approach each other, and the hind feet to turn outwards. The latter, like the fore feet, should be round and compact, with the toes well split up and the knuckles prominent.

“From his formation the dog has a peculiar heavy and constrained gait, appearing to walk with short quick steps on the tip of his toes, his hind feet not being lifted high, but appearing to skim the ground, and running with the right shoulder rather advanced, similar to the manner of a horse in cantering.

“16. The most desirable size for the bulldog is about 50lb.

“17. The coat should be fine in texture, short, close, and smooth (hard only from its shortness and closeness, not wiry).

“Its colour should be whole or smut (that is, a whole colour with a black mask or muzzle). The colour should be brilliant and pure of its sort. The colours in their order of merit, if bright and pure, are, first, whole colours and smuts—viz., brindles, reds, white, with their varieties, as whole fawns, fallows, &c.; second, pied and mixed colours.”

Several good bulldogs have from time to time been sent to the United States, where a club to look after and further the interests of the variety has been established. Two years ago its members drew up a special description and standard by which the judges had to be guided. They are, however, of little interest to our English readers. More recently

bulldog clubs have been established in Melbourne and in Vienna.

### TOY BULLDOGS.

Perhaps this chapter would be less complete than is the case were it without allusion to the "Toy" or "French" (as some people call it) bulldog, which during the last half dozen years has received considerable attention in this country. The word "toy" as applied here I take to be somewhat of a misnomer, for, without there being any actual rule in the matter, a "toy," where dogs are concerned, means a dog not more than, say, 6lb. in weight, one which can be carried about and used as a lap dog; indeed, in canine matters the words "toy" and "lap" have actually the same meaning. These little bulldogs are, however, allowed up to 20lb. weight or over, and one less than 15lb. weight is seldom seen. "French" bulldogs some consider would be the better name, because latterly such specimens as we have were brought from that country, where for some years they have flourished. Here we, however, intend to improve upon this French strain, which in the first instance came from England, so French bulldogs would scarcely be a suitable nomenclature. Perhaps it will be as well to say no more about the name, for what is there in it?







and doubtless the admirers of this sub-variety or strain, and they only are concerned, will stick to the word "toy" or find a suitable substitute.

The origin of the present strain of little bulldogs is not difficult to trace. At the earliest London show classes were provided for bulldogs over 18lb. weight, and for others under 18lb. weight; sometimes the regulation was under and over 20lb. These classes which included the small-sized dogs, were as a rule very well filled, on an occasion there being over forty dogs and bitches in the one division. They as a rule were typical little animals, thorough bulldogs in every way, but most of them, not all, had more than a tendency to carry their ears erect in ugly fashion, and some of them were cropped. Whether these bad ears formed the reason for their lost popularity I cannot tell, but gradually these small-sized bulldogs ceased to attract, and about 1870 the classes for them were discontinued. The London fancy mostly had had them in hand, Harry Orme, Bill Tupper, W. M'Donald at one time or another showing good specimens; Violet, Floss, Frank, Tiny, and others being the chief prize winners. Mr. R. Fulton, in his book about bulldogs, already alluded to, mentions a specimen he brought from Scotland in 1851 called Little Jock, not more than 14lb. or 15lb. in weight,

which, besides excelling in "bulldog points," though his ears were cropped, had teeth sound enough to kill rats and even a cat when he was called upon to do so. Tom Pyles at and before that time had a strain of diminutive bulldogs of the right type. It has been said that some of our French visitors took a great fancy to these miniature emblems of British pluck, and through Messrs. Tupper and Orme secured all the best specimens. Be this as it may, there were in Great Britain until quite recently, when importations of them have taken place, very few, if any bulldogs less than 20lb. weight, whilst in the land of the Gaul such are by no means uncommon.

Somehow or other these dogs have acquired a certain amount of popularity, and although the two Bulldog Clubs have not acknowledged their individuality, the Kennel Club has done so, and in 1894 they granted them a special classification in their stud book. On the first occasion of their appearance in that volume there were but eight entries made, and in the most recent publication that number has not been increased. At many of the leading dog shows classes are now provided for toy bulldogs, but with slight exceptions the competitors there can only by courtesy be called after our noble national dog. The majority of

them are made almost hideous by their huge upright ears—"bat"-eared is, I believe, the technical or slang term for them, but such ears are at any rate much larger than are to be found on the ordinary bats of our country. "Spoon" ears is another name by which they are known, and what those aural appendages are like will be judged from Mr. Wardle's drawing on a preceding page. There he gives us illustrations of what a miniature or "toy" bulldog ought to be, and what he is like at the present time. No doubt our present knowledge of dog breeding might be put to good use in this particular, and with the material at hand there is no reason why a perfect bulldog in miniature should not be produced. Care must, however be taken not to breed for exaggerations—abnormal heads and fronts and such like things, which system has well nigh been the ruin of our ordinary bulldog.

One of the best, perhaps the very best, small-sized bulldogs I have seen of late years, and she existed prior to this new introduction of "toys," was Mr. Cyril Jackson's, Sally Scattercash, about 23lb. in weight, who was sufficient of a bulldog in general character, skull, head shape, and shoulders to win prizes in the ordinary classes. Had she been living now, Sally would have swept the boards over the "spoon-eared" specimens which were introduced

from France. This bitch, bred by Mr. Bartlett, of Bath, had for her sire Monarch III., her dam being Monarch's mother, Skittles. No doubt this in-breeding accounted for the diminutiveness of Sally Scattercash. In this way must we look for an improvement on the French importations rather than by trying to breed out from them the bad ears and long faces, though no doubt a cross with the least faulty of them with our own modern strain might bring about what is required.

Those who have kept these toy bulldogs give them a good character as companions, and say they are more active and sprightly than the real British quadruped. Certainly the former are straighter in the forelegs and less ungainly in shoulder formation, nor are their heads and skulls out of proportion to their bodies, nor their noses unduly short. It is extremely likely that on their exportation from this country forty or forty-five years ago, the strain was crossed with the terrier; signs of such being the case continually crop up. At present the toy bulldogs in this country seem to be mostly in favour by the ladies, and the following are the owners of the best specimens: the Hon. Mrs. Baillie, Mrs. Pelham Clinton, Mrs. J. Marchant, Lady K. Pilkington, Mrs. A. F. Hall, the Countess de Grey, the Duchess of Sutherland, Mrs. Graham Menzies, and the

Countess of Carnarvon. To some of them is the credit of forming a Toy Bulldog Club, which was duly floated during the present year, 1898, and the following are the points and description formulated by the committee, and from which their special variety of the dog have to be judged :

“ The general appearance of the toy bulldog must, as nearly as possible, resemble that of the big bulldog.

“ The skull should be large, forehead flat, the skin about it well wrinkled, the “ stop ” broad and deep, extending up the middle of the forehead. Eyes of moderate size, situated low down on the skull, and as wide apart as possible.

“ Ears to be ‘ rose ’ if possible ; ‘ tulip ’ ears are allowable, but not to be encouraged ; ‘ button ’ or terrier-like ears are a decided fault.

“ Face as short as possible, nose jet black, deeply set back, almost between the eyes. Muzzle to be short, broad, and turned upwards. The lower jaw should project considerably in front of the upper, and turn up. Teeth not to be shown. Neck to be short with much loose skin about it. ‘ Frogginess ’ is objectionable.

“ Chest to be very wide, round and deep. Back short and strong, narrow towards the loins and broad at the shoulder. A roach back is desirable. Tail



to be short and not carried above the back. Fore legs to be short in proportion to the hind legs. Hind quarters much lighter in proportion than fore quarters.

“The most desirable weight is below 20lb., and dogs or bitches that exceed 22lb. shall be disqualified.”

#### SCALE OF POINTS.

	Value.		Value.
General appearance and		Size and weight.....	20
character .....	10	Tail .....	5
Head .....	15	Legs .....	15
Ears .....	15	Chest .....	10
Body .....	10		

*Grand Total 100.*





1907

## CHAPTER X.

### THE PUG.

NOTWITHSTANDING what some writers have said to the contrary, I believe little change has been made in the appearance and in "the points" of the pug during the past half-century. Twenty-five years ago "Idstone" (the Rev. T. Pearce) said there were not half a dozen good specimens to be found in the country, and that a quarter of a century before he wrote the pug was the rarest of all "toy dogs."

I must, however, take exception to the remarks of that pleasant writer, for when he published his book of the dog, pugs of great excellence were to be found in considerable numbers throughout the length and breadth of the land, nor at any time within the present century have they been so rare as either the Italian greyhound, the Maltese terrier, or even as the Yorkshire terrier. Unfortunately, prior to the introduction of dog shows, cruel custom had insisted that the pug dog looked most lovely when robbed of its ears. They were not merely cut off and artistically

trimmed, as was more recently the common practice with the bull terrier and one or two other varieties, the pug's ears were shorn off, and rounded close to the head ; so close, indeed, in some instances, as to give the impression, which was curiously believed to be correct, that they had been torn out by the roots. The vagaries of fashion are certainly most difficult to comprehend, and why a lady's delicate pet dog should have been tortured in this way there is not the slightest reason to show. Fighting dogs had their ears cut off to prevent their offering a hold for the teeth of an opponent ; ears of terriers had been cut to produce a smarter and brighter appearance, and perhaps the tail had been docked in the first instance under the vulgar superstition that the " distemper worm " was thereby destroyed ! A pug with the ears shorn off was rendered hideous, though may be its profile thus looked more like the shadow of a clenched fist than it would with the ears on ; the pug no doubt obtaining its name from the Latin word *pugnus*, a fist.

The pug has never been claimed in this country as a native breed, but was supposed to have been brought from Holland, and even to this day is sometimes called the Dutch pug. As it happens, at present more of them are with us now than is the case in any other country on the Continent, although







the pug has a wide range, extending pretty much from the east to the west of Europe. In France and Italy it is a favourite with the ladies, and at one period of its existence, but for a short time only, it was known in the former country as the Carlin, owing to its black mask or muzzle, a name given it in honour of a popular harlequin named Carlin. This, of course, was but a passing fancy, and prior to Carlin's popularity they had been known as doguins or roquets, but afterwards they obtained the commoner, if less euphonious, name of pugs. As a fact at the present day the pug is the most popular and the commonest of our toy dogs.

The "Sportsman's Cabinet" (1804) gives an illustration of the pug drawn by Reinagle: a cropped dog with a black mask, curled tailed, and toying with a much smaller specimen, which, also being cropped, cannot well be a puppy. Thus the inference is conveyed that when the drawing was made there were pugs of two quite distinct sizes, one of which may probably have been 14lb. or more, the other not more than half that weight. Unfortunately, the letterpress accompanying the illustration is meagre in the extreme, if not actually vague. It says that it is asserted by some that the "genuine pug was introduced to this island from Muscovy, and they were originally the undoubted natives of

that country. Others assert the pug to have been produced by a commixture between the English bulldog and the little Dane, calling such races simply mongrels, as coming from the mixture of two pure races. . . . In the whole catalogue of the canine species there is not one of less utility, or possessing less the powers of attraction than the pug dog. . . . Applicable to no sport, appropriated to no useful purpose, susceptible to no predominant passion, and in no way remarkable for any extra eminence, he is continued from era to era for what alone he might have been originally intended—the patient follower of a ruminating philosopher, or the adulating and consolatory companion of an old maid.”

The above is rather rough on the poor little pug, but such an unfair and ungallant description could only have emanated from the brain of a rough sportsman of the old school, whose chief delights would lie in badger drawing, bull baiting, and cock fighting. The pug dog has its uses in society, and possesses credentials as a lady’s dog that cannot be excelled, of which, however, more later on.

With such a comparatively modern dog as the pug there should be more about his early history to be obtained, but all authorities are more or less silent on the subject. Some say that he is descended from the bulldog; others that the bulldog has been

improved by an infusion of pug dog blood into him. I have never met anyone who has made the cross either one way or the other, but I should not be surprised to find that during the early part of this century some of the small-sized bull bitches were mated with a pug dog in order to produce that fawn or "fallow smut" bulldog which some fanciers admire so much. But if the cross ever was there, such has been so carefully bred away that nothing of it remains, excepting, may be, in the colour of some of our national canine representatives. Such bulldogs as Guido and Queen Mab have, perhaps, as nearly as anything approached the pug dog in hue, but although they were fallow or fawn smuts, there was nothing about their character or appearance to indicate in the slightest degree that pug blood might be running in their veins.

As to the origin of the pug, Buffon, one of the most unreliable of naturalists, says that the pug is but a "modified bulldog" from the Cape of Good Hope, it being imported into Holland when the Cape was a Dutch settlement, and soon became a favourite pet with the ladies. That the country which has since been responsible for the Schipperke also gave us in the first instance our pugs, I have no doubt whatever. It was very fashionable in England soon after the accession of our William III., he and Queen

Mary II., bringing sundry specimens over with them as part and parcel of their retinue. We are told that the pug became first favourite at the Dutch Court in the time of the father of our William III. who, like others, had enemies. One night, whilst camping out, he was wakened by the scratching and barking of his pug dog, which had been aroused and rendered furious by the appearance of a party of pikemen, who sought the life of the Prince. Two of his attendants were killed, but otherwise the murderous attempt was baulked through this watchfulness and vigour of the canine guard. If such were the case, and history is not always truthful, there is little wonder the pug became a great favourite, although it did no more than any other dog would have done under similar circumstances. The quaint-looking, courtly little dogs were quite the rage for a time, but I fancy that for one reason or another they did not make a great deal of headway in Britain, possibly because in-breeding had made them delicate. However, every now and then some fresh blood was introduced from both France and Italy, as well as from Holland, and so the breed was continued, although it did not become particularly common; still, there were plenty of pugs to be found throughout the country, and thus they were fairly installed one of our own varieties.

About the time Hogarth, the great painter, flourished, Dutch pugs were as fashionable as black pages, and no lady of title was considered to have any pretensions to be *fin de siècle* unless she had one of each in her following. Although the painter himself cannot be said to have been a man about town or a creature of fashion, still he kept his pug dog—at least, it is generally understood that the dog which appears in the best known portrait of the artist is intended to be a pug, and the fashionable breed at that day; to me it seems but a nondescript creature.

In due course special strains came to be produced, and Lady Willoughby de Eresby, of Grimsthorpe, near Lincoln, and Mr. Morrison, of Walham Green, gave particular attention thereto. Of those strains “Stonehenge” says :—

“After a great deal of trouble a dog was obtained from Vienna which had belonged to a Hungarian countess, but was of a bad colour, being a mixture of the stone fawn now peculiar to the ‘Willoughby strain,’ and black; but the combination of these colours was to a certain extent in the brindled form. From accounts which are to be relied on, this dog was about twelve inches high, and of good shape, both in body and head, but with a face much longer than would be approved of by pug fanciers. In 1846 he was mated with a fawn bitch imported from



Holland, of the desired colour, viz., stone fawn in body, with black mask and trace, but with no indication of brindle. She had a shorter face and heavier jowl than the dog, and was altogether in accordance with the type now recognised as the correct 'Willoughby pug.' From this pair are descended all the strain named after Lady Willoughby de Eresby, which are marked in colour by their peculiar cold stone fawn, and the excess of black often showing itself, not in brindled stripes, but in entirely or nearly entirely black heads, and large 'saddle marks' or wide 'traces.'

"But coincidently with this formation of a new strain was the existence of another, showing a richer and more yellow fawn, and no tendency to excess of black. This strain was possessed by the late Mr. Morrison, of Walham Green; the late Mr. H. Gilbert, of Kensington; the late Mr. W. M'Donald, and some others. According to Mr. Morrison's statement to me, this strain was lineally descended from a stock possessed by Queen Charlotte, one of which is painted with great care in the well-known portrait of George III. at Hampton Court; but I could never get him to reveal the exact source from which it was obtained. That he himself fully believed in the truth of this story I am quite confident; and I am also of opinion that he never hazarded a statement

of which he had the slightest doubt. Although he never broadly stated as much, I always inferred that the breed was obtained by "back-stair influence," and on that account a certain amount of reticence was necessary ; but, whatever may be the cause of the secrecy maintained, I fully believe the explanation given by Mr. Morrison of the origin of this breed of pugs, which is as commonly known by his name as that of Lady Willoughby de Eresby by hers. His appeal to the Hampton Court portrait, in proof of the purity of his breed from its general resemblance to the dog in that painting, goes for nothing in my mind, because you may breed up to any type by careful selection ; but I do not hesitate to indorse this statement as to the Guelph origin of his strain, because I have full confidence in his truthfulness, from having tested it in various other ways. I need scarcely remark that both strains are derived from the Dutch—'the Morison' coming down to us through the three Georges from William III., and 'the Willoughby' being, as above described, a more recent importation direct from Holland and Vienna."

I need scarcely say that neither of the above strains is to be found in its purity at the present day, no pains having been taken to keep them distinct, but there are more good pugs now than ever there were. In the family of the Willoughby

de Eresby's no pugs have been kept for many years. An early edition of "Dogs of the British Isles" contains an engraving from a painting, of two pugs, the original stock from which the "Willoughby's" were bred. They are both fair specimens, perhaps standing rather higher on the legs than is liked at the present day, but otherwise quite typical animals, and they have their ears cropped. About twenty years ago there was a newspaper warfare, in which one side argued that the pug had already degenerated or was degenerating; but as is usual in controversies of this kind, nothing of interest appeared, although perhaps some good resulted by attention being drawn to the great size of many of the leading winning pugs. Dogs from 20lb. to perhaps 24lb. weight or more were often enough seen at the head of the prize lists, which of course was not to be borne quietly by those who were showing animals not more than 18lb. in weight, which as a fact is quite big enough, and it is gratifying to find that the Pug Dog Club, which was established in 1883, expresses an opinion strongly against the over-sized specimens.

Although pugs had classes provided at the first show which included non-sporting dogs at Birmingham, in 1861, strangely enough there was no competition, but since then divisions arranged for them have been respectably filled. In 1885, and

with one exception ever since, the pug club has had a show of its own, though sometimes it has taken place in amalgamation with that of other Toy Dogs and Toy Spaniels. In 1886 classes were provided for dogs under and over 18lb. weight each, and for bitches under and over 15lb., but at the more recent gatherings the restriction as to size is—dogs, 15lb. weight, and bitches 14lb. weight, thus completely ousting the bigger animals, which are certainly out of place as pugs, for there is no elegance in a large-sized specimen of this variety. In 1887 Mr. H. C. Foster's Comedy, known as the immense Comedy, which weighed probably 24lb., was given the first prize at the National Show at Birmingham.

I think a pretty good idea of what a pug should be, is given in the drawing by Mr. Wardle which precedes this chapter. As a companion in the house, and for an occasional run into the country, no dog is better fitted than the pug. He is cleanly in his habits, has a pretty, soft coat, and nice skin; no foul smell hangs about him, and he is gentleness itself. He shows no ill-temper or snappishness, and the objectionable lolling out of the tongue and unpleasant snorting, which at one time were so common in this variety, are quickly disappearing. Of several pugs that I have owned or known, not more than one of them was addicted to either of

these unpleasant habits. All were lively and tractable, and if not actually as intelligent as a highly-trained poodle, one pug I knew was quite accomplished in many little tricks he used to perform. No doubt had a professional trainer taken this little dog in hand it would have been able to earn more than its own living on the stage. Again, a pug can remain sweet and healthy on less open-air exercise than any other dog, and two of them will play about the dining room or nursery and amuse themselves as much as two terriers would by a scamper in the green fields.

The pug is not a hunting dog, except so far as tracking the footsteps of his fair mistress is concerned, but he has been known to take to the unlady-like occupation of killing rats, which he has done as well as a terrier. Still, it is no part of the duties of a lady's lap-dog to soil his pretty mouth by contact with the most obnoxious of creatures, because we all know that perhaps the next minute he may be fondled and caressed by his owner. Although I have said a pug dog can do with comparatively little out-door exercise, still, he is better for as much as he can be given, as no variety of the dog has a greater tendency to put on fat, and reach a state of obesity, than that of which I write. Whoever saw a pug dog thin and gaunt, with its ribs and backbone almost sticking through the skin? He always looks

smooth, contented, and comfortable, eats well, and he should have as little meat and fat-producing food as possible. Some writers have given him the reputation of stupidity, but I do not believe him deserving of such an epithet. In the house and out of doors he is as sensible as any other dog, follows well in a crowd when properly trained, and is no more liable to lose himself than an ordinary terrier. Some friends of mine had what they called a pug, but she was not more than half or three-parts pure bred, who was particularly sensible. She would retrieve, kill rats, was fond of the gun, and liked a ride on the 'bus or tramcar so well that she continually would take one on her own account, which the kindly conductor allowed her to have gratuitously, the conditions of the "tram" company notwithstanding. This dog had the curly tail, fawn colour, and general appearance of a pure-bred animal, excepting that she was rather long in face. She lived to a great age, but as a rule the pug is not the longest lived of the canine race.

At one time there was a fallacy abroad that the sex of the pug could be determined by the carriage and curl of the tail, the dog carrying his over on the right side and the bitch on the left. As a matter of fact, I have repeatedly observed dogs with the curl to the left, and bitches with theirs to the



right. Sundry peculiarities in the pug are that it is essential for the toe nails to be black (this is often overlooked by the judges), and that they should have a black mole or spot on each cheek. Of course, all dogs have the latter, but in the pug it is much more clearly defined than is the case in other varieties. The dark trace along the back is another peculiarity, as is, of course, the quaintly-curved tail.

Some few years ago the late Mr. Hugh Dalziel, by judicious crossing with light coloured specimens, produced two or three pugs almost white in colour. They were exhibited at Birmingham in 1892, but did not cause particular attention, nor were they particularly nice to look upon. I have not heard that the experiment has been continued. About the same time a white pug was shown at New York.

Another variety of the pug is being re-introduced by Mrs. Tulk, called the "rough-coated pug." Several specimens thereof have been on view at the shows promoted by the Ladies' Kennel Association, but the earliest was sent to the Agricultural Hall Exhibition in 1895. I have said re-introduced because rough-coated pugs have occasionally cropped up, and there was a capital specimen in the Royal Kennels at Windsor about twenty-five years ago, an excellent photograph of which recently appeared in the *Ladies' Kennel Journal*. In 1894

Mr. Willoughby Holdsworth showed a rough-coated pug at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, which was looked upon as a great novelty. The coats of this variety are somewhat longer than those of a wire-haired terrier, but the texture is soft and inclined to be silky rather than otherwise, and the tail, which is well clad with hair or "feather," is carried over the back, and in other respects this new strain is as other pugs but not nearly so handsome. Those now in possession of Mrs. Tulk have been bred from smooth-coated parents, one of which had had for its sire a rough-coated pug which was said to be a half-bred Chinese dog. However, be this as it may, the Chinese pugs with which I have been acquainted, although rougher in coat than our variety, were not nearly so rough as Mrs. Tulk's Hodge which appears to be about the best that lady has shown. Now that the start has been made there is no reason why the variety should not be established, especially as some of the Oriental spaniels, especially the Pekinese could be used as change of blood.

Reference has been made to the Chinese pug, an admirable example of which was illustrated in the *Field* of December 25, 1897. This was a sturdy low set, cobby little dog, full of the character of our ordinary pugs, but with a thicker and better coated tail, more loose skin and a peculiar collar of coat at

the shoulders similar to that which is seen on the Chow Chow. This Chinese or Pekin pug, a ruddy tawny in colour, had originally been imported as a great rarity, and was the property of Mr. Chance, of Thornbridge, Leamington, with whom he died at the age of twelve years. He was a hardy dog and might have been useful in improving the appearance of our ordinary pugs.

The pug has not usually brought such exorbitant sums as have other toy dogs, from £20 to £40 being a good price for a fair specimen, though recently Mr. Nixon sold his well known winner, Royal Rip, for £60.

During the past few years the best specimens of fawn pugs have been bred by, or in the hands of, Mr. J. Nunn, London; the late Mrs. Mayhew, Twickenham; Mrs. M. J. Foster, Bradford; Mr. W. L. Sheffield, Birmingham; Mrs. Hartley, Nelson; Mrs. Westfield, near Sheffield; Mrs. T. Proctor, Leeds; Mrs. Horner, near Kirkby Lonsdale; Mrs. C. Houlker, Accrington; Mr. R. T. Linton, Edinburgh; the Rev. G. C. Dicker, Birkenhead; Mr. T. T. Craven, Leeds; Mr. H. Maule, Scarborough; Mrs. M. Garniss, Ashbourne; Mrs. T. Dunn; Miss Hamilton; Mrs. Brittain; Mrs. Paul Greliche; Miss Irene Fabian; Mrs. M. J. Tulk; Mr. W. T. Riley; and Mr. Harvey Nixon.

The Pug Dog Club has issued the following description and points of the variety :

*Symmetry.*—Symmetry and general appearance, decidedly square and cobby. A lean leggy pug and a dog with short legs and a long body are equally objectionable.

*Size and Condition.*—The pug should be *multum in parvo*, but this condensation (if the word may be used) should be shown by compactness of form, well-knit proportions, and hardness of developed muscle. Weight from 13lb. to 17lb. (dog or bitch).

*Body.*—Short and cobby, wide in chest and well-ribbed up.

*Legs.*—Very strong, straight, of moderate length, and well under.

*Feet.*—Neither so long as the foot of the hare, nor so round as that of the cat ; well-split-up-toes, and the nails black.

*Muzzle.*—Short, blunt, square, but not upfaced.

*Head.*—Large, massive, round—not apple-headed, with no indentation of the skull.

*Eyes.*—Dark in colour, very large, bold and prominent, globular in shape, soft and solicitous in expression, very lustrous, and, when excited, full of fire.

*Ear.*—Thin, small, soft, like black velvet. There are two kinds—the “rose” and “button.” Preference is given to the latter.

*Markings.*—Clearly defined. The muzzle or mask, ears, moles on cheeks, thumb-mark or diamond on forehead, back-trace should be as black as possible.

*Mask.*—The mask should be black. The more intense and well defined it is the better.

*Wrinkles.*—Large and deep.

*Trace.*—A black line extending from the occiput to the tail.

*Tail.*—Curled tightly as possible over the hip. The double curl is perfection.

*Coat.*—Fine, smooth, soft, short and glossy, neither hard nor woolly.

*Colour.*—Silver or apricot-fawn. Each should be decided, to make the contrast complete between the colour and the trace and the mask.

#### THE STANDARD POINTS.

	Value.		Value.
Symmetry .....	10	Eyes .....	10
Size .....	5	Mask .....	5
Condition .....	5	Wrinkles .....	5
Body .....	10	Tail.....	5
Legs .....	5	Trace .....	5
Feet.....	5	Coat .....	5
Head .....	5	Colour .....	5
Muzzle .....	5	General carriage .....	5
Ears .....	5		
	—		—
	55		45

*Grand Total 100.*







## CHAPTER XI.

### THE BLACK PUG.

ALTHOUGH the common belief has been that this is quite a new variety, such is not actually the case, but that within the last half-dozen years it has been popularised and generally developed and improved is quite true. Goldsmith in his "Animated Nature" alluded to a black breed of pugs, and between forty and fifty years ago a very fair specimen of the variety was in the possession of Her Majesty. A photograph of the latter is to be seen in one of the Royal albums devoted to dogs, and the picture appears to be of quite a fair specimen, although it had evidently had a white mark on its head. From the above facts there is no doubt that there must have been black pugs at quite an early date, and it is more than likely that to them we owe the black marks and traces and black toe nails which are found on the ordinary pug at the present day.

Attention seems to have been first drawn to the black pugs through some which Lady Brassey

exhibited at the Maidstone show in 1886. Perhaps to form a direct contrast to these early specimens, some kind of an attempt had been made to produce white pugs ; but herein success was not achieved, the nearest approach thereto being one that seven years ago was shown in New York, and another sent to the Birmingham show in 1892, by Miss Dalziel, of Woking, but neither was of that snowy whiteness required, and both I should take to be more "sports" than anything else. Still I do not see any reason why white pugs could not be produced by judicious crossing with the palest fawn specimens, with a slight dash of white bulldog or bull terrier to assist matters. However, this is digression.

It seems strange that with such a modern dog as the black pug there should be serious doubts about its origin, and there are certainly differences of opinion on the matter. On one side it is stated to have come from the North of China, and that Lady Brassey brought the first specimen therefrom when she was touring round the world in her yacht, the "Sunbeam." The fallacy of this is shown in my introductory remarks. Again it is said the breed sprang up accidentally, it being a "sport" produced in the north of London by one of the working fanciers in that locality, who had a particularly dark-coloured strain of the ordinary pug. The Hon. Mrs.

McLaren Morrison, of Northallerton, at the close of 1893, showed a little black dog which she had brought from Japan, where it was said to be of rare and choice breed. This was nothing else than a long coated pug—*i.e.*, pug in character and shape, but with a jacket such as is seen on a Pomeranian. But there is no reason to doubt that in the East there are as many varieties of the dog as we have here. However, it is only in order that this latest of importations should be mentioned here. In, however, suggesting that our black pugs may have come from some such dog as this, it must not be forgotten that they have very short and thin jackets, the antipodes of this little fellow which Mrs. Morrison showed.

Personally, I believe there may be truth in both statements, that a black pug was accidentally produced, and at the same time a specimen or two had been brought from the East. Although Lady Brassey makes no allusion to a black pug in her published journals of the voyage of the "*Sunbeam*," still I know as a fact that two or three similar dogs were on her yacht, whether they were then called black pugs is another question, but these were by no means the first specimens known as has been generally believed. Most likely they were called Chinese pugs.

A writer in a recent number of *Black and White* says : " There seems little doubt that the black pug hailed from China, as in a weekly contemporary, only the other day, I saw a copy of an advertisement which had been appearing in the *North China Daily News* : ' Lost near the Hong Kong and Syezchen Roads, last evening, a small Peking Pug, black body and head, white paws. Anyone finding same will be rewarded on bringing it to Kelly and Walsh Limited, Shanghai.' The white paws were evidently uncommon, and so were the lost dog's distinguishing marks. I have also learned that a lady in the West End of London bought a black pug bitch from a sailor on one of the cargo ships just arrived in the docks from China. Another lady at Willesden also bought one through a similar source. This latter one was, however, unfortunately destroyed by fire, and before the purchaser had bred from her; but it is an undoubted fact that these pugs came off a Chinese vessel just arrived in port, and were sold to them as Chinese pugs. One lady describes her specimen as ' very short in face, good curly tail, and a beautiful jet black '—a perfect pug in points. Again, I have heard of a ' Chinese pug ' being bought at Portsmouth from a ship calling there.

" It is, therefore, not improbable that Lady Brassey's black pugs, Jack Spratt and Mahdi, were

brought home from China by Lady Brassey, and were of the breed mentioned in that stray advertisement for a lost pet, *viz.*, a 'Peking' pug."

The variety is, at any rate, now quite a distinct one, and pretty well all well-regulated shows provide classes for black pugs, which are usually well-filled. Mrs. Fifield, of Eastleigh, Southampton, who has some excellent specimens, which originally came from the Brassey strain, says that when blacks are mated together they breed true to type and colour, although in almost every litter a perfectly-marked grey specimen appears, but Mrs. Fifield never bred a black one from grey parents. Miss "Mortivals" (Miss M. D. Robinson), Takeley, Essex, writes in a similar strain, and as these two ladies have had a greater experience of black pugs than any one else, their opinions must be highly valued. Indeed, they, with Mr. Alfred Bond, of Gravesend, appear to be the only persons who, until quite recently, have given much attention to the variety, and to them all credit is due for the improvement brought about in the appearance of the animal since it first came upon the scene.

The black pug is now a more cobby and thickly-made dog than was the case three or four years ago; he is lower on the legs, and his head, face, and skull are more characteristic of our own



pug dog, and he now breeds quite as true to type as any other of our modern varieties; thus he has thoroughly popularised himself, and when, at the show of toy dogs at the Royal Aquarium, Westminster, in 1896, Mrs. Howard's black bitch Chotee was awarded a special prize as the best pug bitch in the show irrespective of colour, he was given a further fillip of which he will never be deprived.

Although it was not until 1886 that black pugs first appeared at our shows, long before this time Lady Brassey had them at Normanhurst. A pair were given to a lady in Liverpool. Lord Londonderry was likewise presented with a specimen, and later I was told that Her Majesty the Queen took one, amongst her other canine companions, to Balmoral, on the usual visit to the Highlands. This royal pug, which bore the name of "Brassey" in honour of its donor, died at Windsor in 1891, and so far as I can learn, not one of these four animals left any progeny behind.

After Lady Brassey's tragical death in the Southern seas in 1887, several of her black pugs were purchased by Mr. A. Bond, already alluded to. One of these dogs was Jack Spratt, who is said to be pretty well the progenitor of the present strains, though of course other blood was introduced. Mr. Bond had the misfortune to lose Jack Spratt

in 1888, both he and Bessie Spratt falling victims to that scourge of the pet dog, inflammation of the lungs. Fortunately, ere this occurred, Mr. Bond had been successful in rearing Lino, from Jack and Bessie Spratt, a handsome black dog, which he subsequently sold to Mrs. Fifield, of Southampton, and which has since sired the notable Doatie Darling and Black Gem, two of the best blacks we have had. What had become of Nap. II.—Lady Brassey's especial favourite—and his sister Black Bess, no one could find out, until the Crystal Palace Committee, in their show for 1891, provided two classes for black pugs. Then for the first time Normanhurst Nap, who had become the property of Miss "Mortivals," met his brother, the Gravesend Lino, who beat the old favourite. Singularly, the first prize went to quite an outsider, believed to have come from the East End of London, as breeder and pedigree were stated unknown and the type had nothing of the Jack Spratt about it.

This dog Nigger, later better known as Surprise, considerably attracted the attention of the judge, and its black coat, tightly curled tail, coupled with a smart carriage, quite overbalanced his somewhat long, terrier-like face, and so he was placed first in the open class for dogs, in which there were twelve entries. The other dogs shown, the true lineal

descendants of Jack Spratt were so shy as to render themselves ridiculously unassertive, their tails dangling under their bodies, thus they were quite out of the running. Nap II., however, was consoled by winning the first stud medal ever given to a black pug, he being awarded one of the two bronze medals offered by the Crystal Palace for stud pugs. These two well-filled classes of odd-looking, but remarkably handsome, jet black pugs created considerable attention. Such is all that is known as to the early history of the black pug.

I have already alluded to their breeding true to type, and Miss "Mortivals" says that "two of the original pair, Nap II. and Black Bess, never produced any puppies but black ones, which had usually a small white mark on their chests, and some of them had white on their toes, others on their under lip. A fawn bitch mated with Nap invariably threw half the litter wholly black, the others very clear coated—never fawns—with dense markings. I found the breeding difficult, so about eighteen months ago I made up my mind to breed out for fresh blood, and accordingly purchased a first-class fawn bitch, combining the blood of Loris, Stately, and Diamond, and mated her with Nap II. At the same time I sent out a black daughter of Nap's to the fawn dog Confidence.

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“From these alliances have been produced puppies either entirely black or entirely silver fawn, and not so mixed in coat as the show dogs of two fawn ancestors. Never yet has there appeared anything curious in the breeding, the sole reason for introducing the fresh blood being to make the blacks more like the fawns in quality, in shortness of face, better in body and lower on the leg. The issue from the Nap II., Loris, and Confidence alliances or blend, retain the colour, but have better coats, thicker in texture than that of the old blacks, and more inclined to ruffle, while the domed head is disappearing and giving place to wrinkle; sturdy limbs are supplanting the long taper legs of the original blacks, and the nose, instead of having a downward tendency, is becoming more snub.

“From the two cross alliances six puppies came, four of which were dense black, one pure silver, and one silver fawn of the loveliest colour possible. The coats and ‘pug points’ were much improved, and with one exception all had excellent jackets, characteristic of the fawn pug (the black had nearly always bad coats), and with loose skins. One of the strange things in this cross is that whole colours usually appear, and that black and fawn or tri-coloured puppies have not yet been born.”

Mrs. Fifield and Miss "Mortivals" both accord the black pugs excellent characters. They say they are hardier than the fawn, especially when past puppyhood, and even when young they are not much trouble to rear. Oily food suits them best, and Miss "Mortivals" gives hers linseed once a week, it improving their coats and making them appear smarter and cleaner than they would without it.

Mrs. Fifield writes that "the black pugs differ materially from the fawns; firstly they are not so susceptible to cold. The prettiest sight I remember was seeing the delight of an exquisite litter of black puppies in their first snowstorm; they simply revelled in it. They are much more tenacious in affection, for, while the fawns freely make friends, no enticements will induce the blacks to leave their owners, and, although very timid, they are wonderfully intelligent and easily learn tricks. They are cleanly in their habits, but, whilst the fawns are proverbially greedy, the blacks are extremely dainty feeders. A combination of such excellent traits makes them the most perfect companions ladies can possibly wish for."

Such are the opinions of those who know and have kept black pugs. They are however in sure hands now, and the classes have, since the above was written, continued to increase in numbers.

There were more dogs in the open class at the Crystal Palace in 1896, but at the show of the Ladies' Kennel Association held at the Royal Botanic Society's Gardens the following year sixty-eight entries of black pugs were obtained, whilst eighty-seven entries were made in the classes devoted to the fawn variety. At the Kennel Club's Show at the Crystal Palace in October, 1898, three classes attracted twenty-four entries, which may be considered a capital average nowadays, and there was scarcely a bad specimen in the lot. The championship here was won by Mrs. T. Clarke's Wallypug, a very perfect little animal, whose sire, Duke of Beira, is alluded to elsewhere. However, the entry at the Ladies' Kennel Association's Show in 1898 better testifies to the increasing popularity of the black pug, for there were sixty-eight entries there to a total of about seventy of the fawn variety. The black pug was given distinct classification in the Stud book in 1897.

Amongst leading exhibitors and breeders in addition to those already mentioned are H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, Mrs. C. F. A. Jenkinson, whose Duke Beira is one of the best dogs yet seen; Mrs. C. Lyon, Miss H. Cooper, Mrs. L. Innocent, Mrs. H. Samuelson, Messrs. Hooton and Baker, Mrs. Kingdon and Mrs. Dunn.



So far as the points and description are concerned, excepting in colour the blacks and fawns should be alike, but whether by introducing the "fawn" strain one or two of the distinguishing traits in the blacks may be ultimately lost is a question upon which there may be two opinions. The more intense in colour the black pug is the better; he should be free from white, and any brown or bronze tinge is a very severe handicap when being judged in the ring. A perfect specimen of the black pug ought to be thick-set and cobby in body, standing not too high on the legs, big in skull, with a short square face well wrinkled; full eyes; straight, strong forelegs and longish rather than round feet; in short, counterparts in black of the fawn pugs so admirably drawn by Arthur Wardle, and reproduced on another page. I should give the size as not to exceed, say, 15lb. weight, and the smaller the better so long as power and character are not sacrificed to diminutiveness.

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1891



## CHAPTER XII.

### ENGLISH TOY SPANIELS.

NOTWITHSTANDING recent introductions and popularisations of other canine pets, the toy spaniels appear to well hold their own in favouritism; one even fancies they are increasing in numbers, as they certainly are in quality. The original toy spaniels were black, tan, and white, and orange or red and white in colour; the former known as the King Charles, and later the latter as Blenheims. The King Charles were called after the second monarch of that name, who had so great a partiality and fondness for such creatures; and the Blenheims obtained their designation from the family seat of the Dukes of Marlborough, where at one time they were bred to perfection and kept with great care. Some interest is still taken in the variety, and handsome little dogs, however, not equal to such as we see on the show bench, are still to be found at the palace and in the locality.

However, I imagine that long before the restora-

tion of the Stuarts (1660), toy spaniels were general favourites with the aristocracy. A story is told that James II., on one occasion fleeing from a sinking ship, suddenly discovered that some favourite spaniels had been left behind, for which he would have the boat return, though previously he would not consent to put back to rescue his sailors, some of whom were drowned. One could scarcely believe even a monarch of the stamp of James II., guilty of so cruel and inhuman an action. But toy spaniels have not been fortunate in their connection with Royalty, for Mary Queen of Scots' favourite dog was a little black and tan spaniel, and it was found almost heartbroken, curled up in her royal mistress's gown a short time after her melancholy death at the axe of the headsman. About that time and a little later the toy spaniel became fashionable because he was a royal favourite, docile in disposition, and intelligent withal. Towards the close of the sixteenth century Dr. Caius alludes to him as "the Spaniell gentle, otherwise called the Comforter," but does not say much in his favour. He, however, alludes to such lap or toy dogs as "good to assuage the sickness of the stomach," being applied thereto as a preservative plaster, and as being likewise useful when borne in the bosom to keep in "moderate heat diseased and weak persons." Caius follows

with a lot of other rubbish, but in his day the little dogs were pampered and petted much as they are now, and, no doubt because they afforded pleasure to their fair mistresses, who kissed and fondled them, obtained the name of Comforters; moreover, a vulgar superstition prevailed that if these little dogs were carried about the person of anyone suffering from disease, the disorder became transferred from the individual to the dog, which usually died in consequence!

Some writers have said that the King Charles spaniel was originally brown and white in colour, but I have not been able to find anything to establish the truthfulness of such a statement; still I have no doubt that the original toy spaniel was much more like a little cocker than it is at present, and in addition to being used as a "comforter," was occasionally trained to hunt the coverts, beating out the pheasants and woodcocks, stirring up the hares and the rabbits just as the rustic biped with the long stick does at the present day.

Writers on canine matters at the early part of this century have little to tell about the King Charles and the Blenheim spaniels, excepting as to their value and sagacity. Sir William Jardine, as late as 1843, in his "Naturalist's Library," says of the King Charles that it is "a beautiful breed, in general



black and white, and presumed to be the parent of the cocker;" but in 1820 John Scott wrote in the "Sportsman's Repository" that "the very delicate and small carpet spaniels have excellent noses and will hunt truly and pleasantly, but are neither fit for a long day or for a thorny covert." The "Sportsman's Cabinet" (1803) has little more to give about the King Charles spaniel, but mentions one that in 1792 belonged to a gentleman, in De Vere-street, Clare Market. This gentleman went with his family to Drury Lane theatre, about 5.30 in the afternoon, leaving the little dog locked up in the dining-room. At eight o'clock the door was opened, the dog escaped, found its way to the theatre, and although the house was crowded at the time, ferreted out its master, who was sitting in the centre of the pit. I am afraid none of our modern toy spaniels could perform such a feat as this.

The Dukes of Norfolk at one time had an exceptional strain of spaniels, which were valued highly, so much so that when a friend of one of the dukes asked as a favour for a puppy, his Grace haughtily replied, "Which of my estates would you like, sir?" Indeed, of this Howard, who bore no good name, it was said he valued these "trumpery little dogs more than he did his tenants, and, rather than present any of them with a puppy, either

destroyed those for which he had not room, or fed his hawks with them."

Richardson, in a little handbook about dogs which he wrote in 1845, says that "in London the King Charles and Blenheims are bred with great care and to the highest perfection. The Blenheim is frequently crossed with the Charles, so that the variety of colour, on which the difference in nomenclature depends, often appears in the same litter." After writing a lot of nonsense as to this cross, Richardson goes on to say that "Several 'Spaniel Clubs' have been formed to promote the careful breeding of these dogs, and of some of these His Royal Highness Prince Albert is patron, both Her Majesty and the Prince being enthusiastic admirers of these beautiful little creatures. His Royal Highness has, at no sparing outlay, erected a superb kennel for them at Windsor."

"The members of these spaniel clubs subscribe a small sum each, and with the amount contributed a handsome collar of silver, with gold entablature, is purchased; a particular day is then named, and judges are appointed, when each member brings to the club-room a dog of his own rearing, and that dog adjudged to possess the greatest number of good points attains the collar as a prize. King Charles and Blenheims have been

known in London to fetch the price from 150 to 200 guineas."

These quotations are particularly interesting, as they afford a clue to the early inter-breeding of two strains from which we now obtain two other varieties, and the reference to the early establishment of dog clubs is likewise useful. Possibly some of the handsome collars won at these early club shows are still to be found, and I am certain they would compare more than favourably with the valueless silver medals modern champions have to be contented with, as provided by show committees, although our popular Toy Spaniel Club appears to be unusually liberal in the prizes it provides for its own members.

No doubt from continual in-breeding, the peculiarly short faces and round skulls so much admired in the modern type of toy spaniel are procured, and not from any cross with the still shorter faced Japanese spaniel, which has been with us for a considerable number of years, nor with the pug dog, as has been suggested in some quarters. So far as I can make out there are not the remotest grounds for such statements. Our toy spaniel has been bred within its own variety, and possesses attributes distinct from those of the pug and of any other strain, with which an outcross would no doubt have interfered.





As I have said, the present King Charles spaniel must be black and tan, deep in black, and rich in tan, and the Blenheim is an orange and white marked dog, which ought to have an evenly coloured face, with a white blaze up the centre, widening towards the top of the skull, upon which should be an orange spot or mark called the "lozenge" or "spot." Several of our modern Blenheims are without this spot, but it is an old fancy, difficult to produce, and, although not of the slightest use, I do not care about seeing Blenheims devoid of it—a beauty mark, in fact.

One recent writer, alluding to the Blenheim spaniel, says: "Strange as it may seem to those who only know the Blenheim spaniel as the tiny lap dog with its retroussé nose, goggle eyes, and abnormally prominent brows, which properties are so admired by their lady owners, that animal was originally a sporting dog, and I have reason to believe that there is a family connection, of remote period, between the Blenheim and the old fashioned liver and white spaniels that are to be found in the eastern counties. I am borne out in this opinion by the fact that, hung over the mantelpiece in the library at Elsenham Hall, the seat of Sir Walter Gilbey, is a portrait of one of the late Duke of Marlborough's spaniels, painted by Stubbs. This



dog is represented to be curly-coated, with a long nose, and probably weighed upwards of 30lb. This was no doubt the type of Blenheim spaniel that was known as a sporting dog, and has now been entirely lost sight of." However, such Blenheims as have recently been at Woodstock are pretty much the toys now admired, though by no means first-rate specimens from the modern point of view. The late Duchess of Marlborough sent four to the Birmingham show in 1882, but they were larger than the winners, and neither so short in face or round in the skull as they, and these remarks equally apply to a team shown at Earl's Court in 1897. However, though not so small as some others, their general beauty and attractiveness justified the awards of merit they received from the judge. I need scarcely say that these Marlborough Blenheims were active, well formed little creatures, and the biggest was certainly not less than 14lb. weight. One dog, a great favourite at Blenheim palace, in a combat with a cat, unfortunately, lost an eye, but it was thought so much of by the late Duchess that a glass eye was obtained and worn regularly. However, this gave its wearer such a peculiarly odd expression that the little creature was removed from the boudoir, and for the remainder of its life had the companionship of the servants instead of the admiration of the

Duchess—at least, such was the story told in one of the weekly newspapers not long ago, where a portrait of the toy spaniel with a glass eye was given.

It is not generally known that large numbers of spaniels are still kept at Blenheim (they being reared by the gamekeepers, lodge keepers, retainers, and cottagers on the estate), and considerable care is taken to prevent them becoming delicate and fragile through inter-breeding. Thus the spaniel found there is larger and stronger than such specimens as are produced for purely fancy and show purposes, and as companions the ladies say that those from Blenheim are “simply adorable.” The present Duchess of Marlborough has her special favourites, one of which—Flossie by name—is particularly charming in her affections. Particularly interesting is a visit to Blenheim Palace, where several fine paintings are to be seen of the spaniel as he was a hundred years ago, when Sir Joshua Reynolds painted him, and of a later date when Sartorius did likewise. The little dog then was more of the sporting cocker type than he is now, and there is little doubt that at that time many of the Marlborough Blenheims were trained to the gun.

A word or two may not be out of place here as to the earlier open dog shows, such as took place

in London at Ashburnham Hall, Chelsea, and elsewhere, in the sixties. Divisions for King Charles and Blenheims were provided at all of them, and the former were usually well filled, the Blenheims not being so numerous. The King Charles were for the most part divided according to size, sometimes for dogs and bitches over 7lb. weight, and for such under 7lb. Later on the arrangement was somewhat altered, but there were usually two classes for the King Charles, and one for Blenheims. In all cases the groups of these little dogs were very popular, and, as a rule, there were twenty competitors or more. For the most part these divisions were supported by the London fanciers, and the best specimens came from Mr. Garwood, Mr. McDonald, Mr. W. Tupper, Mr. R. Mandeville, and Mr. J. W. Guppy.

Of late years, in addition to the two already named varieties, there have been classified the Prince Charles, which are black, tan, and white, and the Rubies, entirely red. Although at the present time these are rarer than the original strains, it is possible that in due course they will be equally popular. As a fact, the tri-colours are older than either the black and tans or the orange and whites; but it is only since the establishment of the Toy Spaniel Club in 1885 that they have obtained the distinguishing name of Prince Charles. Still, Landseer

had immortalised them on his canvases long before, and his "Cavalier's Pets," a black, tan, and white, and a Blenheim, and the "Lady and Spaniels" convey an excellent idea of the dogs of which I write. The reds are the rarest and choicest of all the varieties, and although specimens were occasionally cropping up in litters of black and tans, such attracted but little attention. However, two or three particularly choice specimens were exhibited, and again the Toy Spaniel Club came to the rescue, named them aptly, and obtained their inclusion in the "Kennel Club Stud Book," where they were first classified in 1892.

Long before then, special prizes had been given for both tri-colours and Rubies, and at the Kennel Club Show held at the Crystal Palace in 1886, when several nice specimens of both varieties were shown by Mr. R. T. Linton, Mrs. Bevan, and Mrs. H. E. Jenkins. In November, the year previous, the first exhibition of the Toy Spaniel Club took place at the Westminster Aquarium, where there were eighty-four entries, and classes for King Charles, Blenheims, Prince Charles, Rubies, and "Toy Spaniels," were included in the schedule. The latter was for specimens not more than 7lb. in weight, and the first prize was won by the red Ruby Princess.

As all these English toy spaniels are made so

much on the same lines, and, in a certain degree, inter-bred with each other, it is not my intention to separate them under different heads any more than I have already done. I may remark that of the four varieties the Blenheim appears to be the most active; some I have known recently were not at all adverse to having a scamper after a rabbit, and no doubt had such been brought up in the country would have taken as kindly to the gun and the covert as a terrier or a cocker. Mr. W. C. Bennett, of Dublin, the solicitor to the Irish Canine Society, tells me that Mrs. Bennett has a Blenheim which is quite useful amongst the rabbits.

In my early days there were at least two persons in the north of England who kept King Charles spaniels, black and tans, with shortish faces and with as much coat and feather as the winners of to-day. All these dogs hunted by the water's edge, and would kill rats fairly well; but at the same period, and that would be forty years ago, an old lady of my acquaintance had a couple of black and tan spaniels as fat and wheezy and incapable of exertion as the most distorted specimens of modern times. Of course this difference was brought about through the rearing and general surroundings.

As to the breeding and inter-breeding of the varieties there appears to be some difference of

ideas, but none can be higher or more valued than the opinion of Mrs. Forder, of Southsea, one of the oldest breeders, and of Mr. Hugh Collis, of Rusham, honorary secretary to the Toy Spaniel Club, who have kindly contributed the following information.

They say that the Rubies are not a distinct variety, but in the first instance specimens came from the ordinary King Charles. Then it was sought to perpetuate or improve them by crossing with the Blenheim, but this proved a failure, as when Ruby puppies were born they had more or less white about them, and at one period it was actually impossible to get a Ruby spaniel without white, especially on the forehead or chest. By altogether leaving the Blenheim alone and keeping up the crossing with the King Charles the white disappeared, and at the present time there are sufficient Ruby dogs and Ruby bitches to breed from Ruby parents on both sides—so long as neither parent has Blenheim blood in its veins. Thus easily has this choice and handsome variety become perpetuated.

The tri-colours have always been, but by continual in-breeding with the darker coloured black and tans the latter are usually born free from white, although many of the best specimens even now have a few white hairs sprinkled up and down the coat and on



the chest. Mrs. Forder is of my opinion, that the short noses are the result of in-breeding, which by that process, like any other deformity, can be accentuated.

Blenheims and tri-colours are sometimes bred together, with a result that you obtain the two varieties from the one litter; but when the black and tan and the Blenheim are crossed the most probable result is not the two varieties, but King Charles with white on them in the shape of a patch on the breast, on the forehead, or on the feet. There is no doubt that at the present time, with the material at command, there is not the slightest reason to make any crosses between the varieties; all are sufficiently distinct and representative, thus by freedom from breeding between relatives, and by judicious mating, there is no reason why the toy spaniels in their four varieties should not increase, multiply, and improve.

Within the past two or three years the abnormally short nose and the protruding, lolling tongue have certainly not been encouraged, and anyone attending the periodical exhibitions arranged by the Toy Spaniel Club cannot fail to be charmed with the pretty dogs that are there benched. These lovely specimens are not always from the mansions of the noble and the wealthy, for in the East End of London, where the labourer dwells, many of our

best toy spaniels have been produced. Such little dogs are well adapted for cottage homes, as they take up less room than the bigger terrier, and are kept in good health with less exercise.

Our English toy spaniels have for generations been favourites with the working man fancier, and his wife will attend to their comforts when she has put the children to bed. On the Saturday night, when his work is over for the week, this working man has a show of his own at his favourite "public round the corner," where, on the parlour table, his little beauties are placed to compete against those of his neighbours. The prize is generally a useful article of small value, given either by the landlord or by a friend. At such shows as these the choicest toy spaniels originally appear, and a good "stock" Blenheim or King Charles will bring in quite a little income to his owner. These working men often enough refuse £20 and £30 apiece for their favourites, and it is indeed a moderate specimen that will not bring more than a five pound note.

I believe to the working classes of the East End we are indebted for the present excellence and popularity of the toy spaniels. The Dukes of Norfolk have not taken any interest in them for a generation or two, and they are no longer favourites in the royal home at Windsor; still they are fostered

at Blenheim Palace and in the neighbourhood of Marlborough, as alluded to on another page. And so the breed survives, and under the kindest care of the specialist club will no doubt continue to improve. At certain shows now, over a hundred specimens may be exhibited, and if such do not bring sums so exorbitant as the more fashionable collie and fox terrier, not long ago £175 was given for the King Charles Spaniel Laureate, and I know one or two Blenheims which are worth quite as much—Mrs. Graves' May Queen II., for instance, and it is said that the Ruby spaniel Mozart once changed hands for £135 or its equivalent.

Retracing our steps a few years, we find in 1871 Mr. C. Dawson's Frisky, Mrs. Lee's Jumbo, and Mr. Garwood's Hyllus, all animals of high stamp, and three years later Mr. Forder brought out a King Charles called Young Jumbo, which beat all before him for a time. Mr. Buggs succeeded not long after with Alexander the Great, then came Bend Or, Bend Or II., and Mrs. Forder's Jumbo, all of which attained to the dignity of champions. The following came later, and take us up to the present date, Mr. Arnold's Grace Darling; Mrs. Graves' Little Gem, Golden Ben, Sunbeam, Mistress Mary and Cinderella; Mr. Yates' Minerva and Merry Duke; the Hon. Mrs. McLaren Morrison's Queen of the Toys

and Laureate ; Mr. R. Spencer's Olivette ; Mrs. Collis' Donovan ; Mrs. Pestell's Paymaster ; Mr. Clarke's Chump ; Mrs. J. Hills' Defender ; Mrs. James Dean's Union Jack ; Mrs. Tidman's Queen of the North and Little Laureate, and the Hon. Ethel Lopes and Miss Spofforth own some excellent specimens.

The best Blenheims are Duke of Bow and Hiawatha ; Mrs. Jenkins' Bowsie and Flossie ; Mrs. Collis' Pompey and Erminie ; Mr. Garrod's Excelsior ; Mrs. Blamey's King Stormy of Homerton ; Mrs. Graves' Tiny Tots and May Queen II. ; Mrs. E. Forder's Haidee and Rollo ; Mrs. Knight's Crona ; Mrs. L. H. Thompson's Muchall Sweet Brier ; Mrs. Jeffrey's Diamond King ; Miss Apps' Iroquois and Leila ; and Mrs. K. Etches' Prince William. In addition to the above, which have taken the leading prizes of late, from Mrs. Leeche's Sweet May Blossom I. and II. and her Lola, which run back as direct descendants from the Duke of Bow, have been produced many of the best Blenheims of the present day. Nor must Mr. J. W. Berrie's (afterwards Mrs. Booth's) The Earl be forgotten.

The most successful tri-colours or Prince Charles are, and have been, Mrs. Jenkins' Prince of Teddington, Day Dream, Mozart, Zingra II. and Clevedon Adonis ; Mrs. Collis' Scamp ; Miss Apps' Tricotrin ; Mrs. Graves' Mother Bunch, Cock Robin, and

Little Miss Muffet ; Miss Young's Lord and Lady Vivian ; Mrs. Millins' Marie Lloyd ; and Mrs. Adamson's Zololah. Before tri-colours were called Prince Charles, Miss Violet Cameron showed successfully a pretty little dog called Conrad.

The Rubies are yet in few hands, but several particularly choice specimens have appeared on the benches. Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. Woodgate, Mrs. James Dean and Mrs. G. Kingscote own the best strains, and the former's Ruby Prince and Golden Phiz, Mrs. Woodgate's Jasper, England's Best, Lapis Lazuli, Rose Diamond, and Carbuncle ; Mrs. Dean's Admiral and Mrs. Kingscote's Admiral and Turret Queen, with Mrs. Millins' Mosaic and Madam Patti, are examples of a lovely variety of dog which anyone must feel proud to own.

Many persons have decried these pretty toy spaniels of ours because it is said they are dirty, snappish, strong smelling, and generally disagreeable as house dogs and ladies' pets. This is not at all the case, and when there is any foulness from the breath or skin such arises through ill-health and neglect. The Blenheim, as already hinted is the most sprightly and lively of the breed of toy spaniels, sweet in disposition, sensible, cleanly, and an admirable follower in the crowded streets when properly trained. There is no guile about him, and if he

prefers to pay attention to all the movements of his fair mistress, and is ever ready to be fondled in her lap, he never forgets to come to a stranger and give him welcome, and no doubt expects a word of praise in return. He is not so liable to become fat and podgy as the King Charles, but in most respects the Ruby Spaniel takes after the King Charles in disposition and character.

The black and tan and the tri-colour are alike in general conduct and behaviour, and appear to be less dainty as to their food than are the other varieties, and so have a tendency to become obese. This they should not be allowed to do, as it interferes with the glossiness of their coats, and I am inclined to believe has a tendency to make the jackets become curlier and not so straight as would be the case under healthier surroundings. This increasing curliness of the coat, which is so apparent with age is one of the great drawbacks to the King Charles spaniel, and in this respect a modern four-year-old dog is not to be compared with a puppy of twelve months or so. Some of these toy spaniels have a habit of lolling out their tongues, which is bad; others have indifferent sets of teeth, which is equally bad. Level mouths are the best, but in many instances breeding for the abnormally short noses appears to have produced undershot mouths, *i.e.*,



where the lower row of teeth protrudes in front of the upper row. The mouth of the toy spaniel should be as level and uniform as that of a terrier, *i.e.*, if you can get it.

All toy spaniels require their toilet attending to, or the feather becomes matted, and the little creature loses the gloss on his coat. An ordinary hair brush and an ordinary comb will answer all purposes admirably, and if your little pet has these used on him pretty regularly once a day, and he is given a "tubbing" when he requires it, is not fed too highly and is occasionally doctored with a gentle dose of magnesia, he will repay the trouble by being sleek and healthy, and as engaging a companion as anyone need desire.

The following are the descriptions and points of the four English varieties as drawn up by the specialist club :

#### POINTS OF TOY SPANIELS (ENGLISH).

"*Head.*—Should be well domed, and in good specimens is absolutely semi-globular, sometimes even extending beyond the half-circle, and absolutely projecting over the eyes, so as nearly to meet the up-turned nose.

"*Eyes.*—The eyes are set wide apart, with the eyelids square to the line of the face—not oblique

or foxlike. The eyes themselves are large, so as to be generally considered black; their enormous pupils, which are absolutely of that colour, increasing the description. From their large size there is almost a certain amount of weeping shown at the inner angles; this is owing to a defect in the lachrymal duct.

“*Stop*.—The ‘stop,’ or hollow between the eyes, is well marked, as in the bulldog, or even more so, some good specimens exhibiting a hollow deep enough to bury a small marble.

“*Nose*.—The nose must be short, and well turned up between the eyes, without any indication of artificial displacement afforded by a deviation to either side. The colour of the end should be black, and it should be both deep and wide, with open nostrils.

“*Jaw*.—The lower jaw must be wide between its branches, leaving plenty of space for the tongue, and for the attachment of the lower lips, which should completely conceal the teeth. It should also be turned up or ‘finished,’ so as to allow of its meeting the end of the upper jaw, turned up in a similar way as above described.

“*Ears*.—The ears must be long, so as to approach the ground. In an average-sized dog they measure 20in. from tip to tip, and some reach 22in. or even a trifle more. They should be

set low on the head, and be heavily feathered. In this respect the King Charles is expected to exceed the Blenheim, and his ears occasionally extend to 24in.

“*Size*.—The most desirable size is from 7lb. to 10lb.

“*Shape*.—In compactness of shape these spaniels almost rival the pug, but the length of coat adds greatly to the apparent bulk, as the body when the coat is wetted looks small in comparison with that dog. Still it ought to be decidedly ‘cobby,’ with strong stout legs, broad back, and wide chest. The symmetry of the toy spaniel is of importance, but it is seldom that there is any defect in this respect.

“*Coat*.—The coat should be long, silky, soft, and wavy, but not curly. In the Blenheim there should be a profuse mane, extending well down in the front of the chest. The feather should be well displayed on the ears and feet, where it is so long as to give the appearance of their being webbed. It is also carried well up the backs of the legs. In the King Charles the feather on the ears is very long and profuse, exceeding that of the Blenheim by an inch or more. The feather on the tail (which is cut to the length of about three and a half to four inches) should be silky, and from five to six inches in length, constituting a marked ‘flag’ of a square shape, and not carried above the level of the back.

“ *Colour*.—The colour varies with the breed. The King Charles is a rich, glossy black and deep tan; tan spots over the eyes and on cheeks, and the usual markings on the legs are also required. The Ruby spaniel is a rich chesnut red. The presence of a *few* white hairs *intermixed with the black* on the chest of a King Charles spaniel, or *intermixed with the red* on the chest of a Ruby spaniel shall carry *very great weight against* a dog, but shall not in itself absolutely disqualify; but a white patch on the chest or white hairs on any other part of a King Charles or Ruby spaniel shall be a disqualification. The Blenheim must on no account be whole coloured, but should have a ground of pure pearly white, with bright rich chesnut or ruby-red markings, evenly distributed in large patches. The ears and cheeks should be red, with a blaze of white extending from the nose up to the forehead, and ending between the ears in a crescentive curve. In the centre of this blaze there should be a clear ‘spot’ of red, of the size of a sixpence. The tri-colour, or Charles the First Spaniel, should have the tan of the King Charles, with markings like the Blenheim in black instead of red on a pearly white ground. The ears and under the tail should also be lined with tan. The tri-colour has no ‘spot,’ that beauty being peculiarly the property of the Blenheim.

"The only name by which the tri-colour, or black, white, and tan, in future shall be recognised is 'Prince Charles.'

"That in future the all red toy spaniel be known by the name of 'Ruby spaniel.' The colour of the nose to be black. The points of the 'Ruby' be the same as those of the 'King Charles,' differing only in colour."

#### SCALE OF POINTS.

##### KING CHARLES, PRINCE CHARLES AND RUBY SPANIELS.

	Value.		Value.
Symmetry, condition,		Eyes .....	10
and size .....	20	Ears .....	15
Head .....	15	Coat and feathering ...	15
Stop .....	5	Colour.....	10
Muzzle .....	10		—
	50		50

*Grand Total, 100.*

##### BLENHEIM SPANIELS.

	Value.		Value.
Symmetry, condition,		Eyes ... ..	10
and size .....	15	Ears .....	10
Head .....	15	Coat and feathering ...	15
Stop .....	5	Colour and markings...	15
Muzzle .....	10	Spot .....	5
	45		55

*Grand Total 100.*







ARTHUR WARD

## CHAPTER XIII.

### THE JAPANESE SPANIEL.

IN some quarters an impression prevails that the Japanese spaniel is quite a modern introduction. This is, however, not so; and at one of our very earliest dog shows—that held in the Holborn Horse Repository in 1862—a class was provided for Japanese, which at that time were oftener called pugs than spaniels. There were then nine entries, and Mr. C. Keller, Camberwell, won first prize with a black and white dog called Caro. Thus Japanese spaniels have been in private hands in this country for a great many years, amongst others Miss Brown, of the Red House, Bayswater, having had specimens since 1870 or earlier. These were brought from time to time from China, where they are purchased from the attendants and others connected with the temples and religious places in the country.

The Japanese themselves claim great antiquity for these little dogs, going so far as to be rivals with the Maltese in that respect, and declaring that

our own toy spaniels were originally produced from the Japanese. But, as I have had to say repeatedly, the origins of the many varieties of the canine race cannot be traced. We have the dogs and so should be contented.

The little creatures to which this chapter is devoted are now called and identified as Japanese spaniels because they are supposed to have originally been brought from Japan. From what I have been told, and from what I have read, I believe them to be equally indigenous to the northern and other parts of China. In the *Field* over twenty years ago there was an excellent article on the dogs of China, in which the writer states that there is the "Pekin pug, remarkable for its diminutive size, sometimes so small as to be carried in the sleeves of a Chinese coat. Hence they are called sleeve dogs. Some resemble the old-fashioned short-bow-legged pugs, which may have been originally introduced into Europe from China by the Portuguese, and hence called Portuguese or Spanish pugs. These dogs are generally smooth skinned. There are other kinds, resembling Scotch Skye terriers, which might, in some exaggerated instances, be considered equally handsome in their extreme ugliness, in having their faces concealed by long hair, and a line or division running along the back, the hair on each side

reaching to the ground. All these kinds are remarkable for the shortness of their nose, giving rise to the supposition that it was the result of mechanical interference with the proper growth of the head, as in the case of the artificially produced distortion of the feet of the Chinese women; but such is not the case, as all who have seen the little puppies of the species can testify. . . . These small dogs originally derived from Corea, are continually imported from that country into China, where, especially in the north, they are much valued, and are to be found in the houses of the wealthy."

The above, as being written by an authority on Chinese dogs, I think worth reproducing, but whether modern admirers of the Japanese dogs will see much resemblance to their favourites in the dogs described, is a matter for them to determine. In 1870 a black and white Japanese spaniel, such as we have now, was entered at a Crystal Palace dog show by Mr. P. Gordon. It was called a Mandarin pug, and said to be one of the four taken at the sacking of the Summer Palace at Peking. This little dog was about twelve years old when shown in England.

In their native country the "Japs" are called "sleeve dogs," because it is, or was, the fashion for the Japanese swell of the period to carry his little

toy dog about with him hidden in one of the sleeves of his flowing garment. Thus the smaller the dogs the better, and specimens not more than three pounds weight are cherished exceedingly. It is said that to keep the dogs as diminutive as possible, it is customary when young to give them a liquor called "saki," which retards their growth. Such an idea is quite as fallacious as is the belief at one time common with us, that our diminutive toys were made so by potions of gin given at stated periods. Elsewhere I have alluded to a similar system which was said to be carried out with the Maltese and with the Chihuahua dogs.

There appears to be some difference of opinion here as to what size a Japanese spaniel ought to be, and at one time I considered that a specimen of 6lb. weight or so was quite small enough for anything; but within the last four or five years very many smart and active little creatures have appeared at our shows varying from 4lb. to 5lb. in weight; indeed, quite a change has been brought out as to weight, and many modern judges will hardly look at a "Jap" if he scales 10lb. or 12lb. No doubt, the smaller the dog the better, so long as strength, stamina, and character are sustained, but we must not forget that here, as in all toy dogs, the midgets are more or less delicate and indifferent mothers,



and the puppies from them, if produced, are very difficult to rear. At some shows the classes for Japanese spaniels are arranged according to their weight; for such as are under 7lb. in weight, and for others over that stipulation.

On this subject of size, Dr. C. F. Grindrod, of Malvern, wrote to a weekly paper not long ago:—

“Japanese spaniels are of almost any size, from even under 4lb. weight to over 20lb. Specimens are fairly healthy from 6lb. to 7lb., but usually much more so from 8lb. to 12lb. Where, however, the weight is reduced to 4lb., of which we have had several examples at late shows, it means the product of breeder's tricks, which it is wrong to encourage.

“These tiny specimens, again, have not got the points of the larger ones, though they are undeniably very pretty—also undeniably useless, except for the shows. No possessor of a female specimen of these attenuated Toys dare run the risk of breeding from it—a sufficient proof of Nature gone wrong.

“Apart from this, I maintain that the true charms of the species, the admitted points, are lost in these tiny examples. To take one point alone, no one ever saw a grand head in a very small-bred Jap; and this, according to the Toy Spaniel Club's de-



scription (from which, by the way, at least as regards *colour*, a native of Japan would hardly recognise his own breed), ought to rank first of all, yet counts very little with most judges.

“To the only defensive argument raised by the ladies for diminutive Japs, that Toys should be as small as possible, I reply that health should count before a fad, and I also ask, ‘How about King and Prince Charles, some of the best of which have weighed from 12lb. to 20lb., and which are probably own cousins to the Japs?’

“One cannot dictate exact weights in any breed, but my own belief is that Japanese spaniels are best all round at about 8lb., and that if you breed them much under this weight you sacrifice both strength and beauty to a foolish and even cruel fad. That the breed is not naturally so small is proved by the fact that if you leave Nature alone you cannot produce diminutive specimens, and I challenge anyone to dispute this assertion. I have seen some very small ones bred, and they have either died young, or been ‘effeminate’ indeed.

“I write this from no personal interest, for I possess a prize Jap of 6lb. weight, and another prize one of 12lb., but in the hope—not a very great hope, since the ladies are against me—of saving what I regard as the most beautiful breed of

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small dogs in the world from the fatal danger of attenuation.

“May I add that the dogs, though called, and doubtless rightly called, spaniels, are not a bit like typical spaniels in their nature, being the liveliest, sauciest, almost maddest-spirited little dogs in creation; but, then, to be this they must not be dwarfed beyond the limit Nature demands for healthy organism.”

Another correspondent writing as to the size of Japs, says: “I have lived in the East for years, and spent three months in Japan, have numerous friends there, and never saw a 3lb. dog, though I owned tiny Japs all the time. The smallest dog I ever saw weighed 4lb., but anything under 7lb. was considered *small* in Japan. Of course, the smaller a Jap is the greater its value, provided other points remain good, but the same might be said of an English Toy Spaniel; yet, surely, no one would say only miniature specimens were of any value! I have seen an English Toy Spaniel weighing 5lb., yet it is valueless in competition with a large dog of perfect points—say, the sensational-priced King Charles Laureate, whose weight must be quite 12lb., for example.”

There is a good deal of common sense in the above extracts, and coming from authorities on the

variety is the reason for their reproduction here, especially as at the present time the Japanese dog is perhaps the most fashionable of all our toy spaniels. Within the past half dozen years its popularity has increased by leaps and bounds, which perhaps is, in a degree, owing to the fact that it has become a great favourite with Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales. An excellent portrait, by Luke Fildes, of our future Queen with a Japanese spaniel in her arms was on the line in the Academy at Burlington House, and "Little Billee," "Punch," and others, are, or have been, great favourites at Sandringham. As the "Japs" grew in popularity, in 1894 the Kennel Club gave them a distinct registration in the Stud Book, which made them at once a dog of our own. A Japanese Spaniel Club was formed in 1896, and it has a fair complement of members.

There is no doubt that the lady admirers of the variety prefer the smallest dogs obtainable; but that they are more delicate and less hardy than the larger ones goes without saying. Not long ago, Miss Brown, already alluded to, showed me a lovely little dog—a new importation—which weighed a little under 3lb.; and at Guildford Show, in 1894, Mrs. J. Allen, Birkenhead exhibited a team of five, not one of which was over  $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb., and the smallest was just  $2\frac{1}{2}$ lb. weight. As a rule, however, the best Japanese

are heavier than these weights, and a good specimen of from  $4\frac{1}{2}$ lb to 7lb. is the most active, hardy, and durable to possess. Mrs. Addis' Dia Butzu II., one of the best of the race we have had, was, in 1895, awarded the special prize, valued at seventy guineas, at the Ladies' Kennel Association's Show as the best dog of any variety in the show. He weighed  $5\frac{1}{2}$  to  $6\frac{1}{4}$ lb., according to his condition, but up to the time of writing this he was always shown under 6lb. Again, in 1896, a Japanese spaniel came third for the same honour at the ladies' show, this being Lady Probyn's Hisa, who weighed  $4\frac{1}{2}$ lb.

At the time of writing this, we have many exquisite little dogs of about this weight in our country, and with the number of larger spaniels there is little fear of the variety degenerating, notwithstanding the fact that dogs brought from foreign countries to our own are now subjected to such a period of quarantine as to make their importation both expensive and onerous.

Although the usual colour of the "Jap" is black and white, fawn, or yellow, and white, and wholly fawns or yellows are sometimes seen, specimens of the latter colour being, however, extremely rare. All varieties, no doubt, come from the same parents, and Dr. Grindrod told me that not long ago he had two litters from black and white parents, good specimens

and prize winners, and three out of the ten puppies born were lemon and white in colour, the remainder being beautifully marked black and white ; Dr. Grindrod further remarks that the lemon and white when mated together, include black and white in their progeny.

The same authority says : " The Japanese spaniels are a very distinct breed. In character they are intensely affectionate, and do not readily take to strangers. They are likewise noted for their cleanly habits ; many of them clean their faces with their damped paws, in the same manner as cats do, and, besides, they are somewhat feline in their peculiar ways and nimble action, in cases eating like cats in dainty, slow, pecking manner.

" As to type, there are many varieties of this breed in Japan, some large, some small, some short-haired, some long-haired, others thick-legged, others very fine-legged. To describe a typical specimen, I should say from 6lb. to 12lb. in weight ; black and white in colour, black ears, the colour nearly or quite meeting across the back of the skull, with a broad, white blaze on the forehead ; in nearly all specimens the eyes are broadly edged with black, which is continued from the ears, leaving the muzzle white ; body either richly broken black and white, or white pointing into black behind, or saddle marked ; white

tail like an ostrich feather, curling tight over the back; legs white, well feathered, and feet well tufted; ears short, being well forward and long feathered; face very short, with deep stop behind the nose; eyes large, lustrous dark brown, rather prominent; skull broad and high vaulted—in bitches more flatly arched than in dogs; body square and cobby-shaped, not too long; legs shortish, fine in bone; the feet delicately pointed and very flexible, with deeply divided toes, in fact, the feet are like large pads, and this is a leading characteristic in the breed; the coat should be very long, silky in texture, and not curly. In the best specimens the jaws are square, the head massive, with overhanging forehead; but this is only to be seen in the larger dogs, those of 10lb. or 12lb. weight. In very tiny specimens the face is more pointed and foxlike."

Such is Dr. Grindrod's opinion of what a Japanese spaniel should be in size, colour, &c.; but I consider that fawns marked in a similar manner are equally as good as the black and white, and the whole or self-coloured fawns, which are the rarest, are equal, if not superior to either. Then I should put the maximum weight at certainly not more than 10lb.; and the smaller the better so long as activity and strength and character are not sacrificed.



H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, Mrs. Grindrod, the Hon. Mrs. McLaren Morrison, Lady Probyn, Mrs. Samuelson, Mrs. Addis, Miss Brown (who never shows her dogs), Mrs. H. L. Allen, Mrs. L. H. Thompson, Miss Serena, Mrs. S. Cookson, Mrs. Lloyd, Lady de Ramsay, Mrs. Horne, Mr. Lindsay Hogg, and Lord John Hay have from time to time had, and still have good specimens, whilst some years ago, Mr. T. Marples, of Stockport, showed with great success a Japanese called Ming Seng.

Another authority says that Japanese spaniels should have at least five distinctive points, which are as follows: "1. The butterfly head, the white portion or centre of head representing the body of the butterfly, and the black edges and ears the wings. 2. The sacred "V" formed by the white portion described as the body of the butterfly. 3. "The bump of knowledge." The round black spot well on the top of the head between the ears. 4. "Vulture feet," well feathered to a point. 5. "The chrysanthemum tail." The tail should be well and tightly curled, when the hair represents the national flower of Japan "

Writing in "Our Dogs," in reply to a correspondent who had been attacking the "Jap" as being deficient in intelligence, "Wuhu" (Fulmer Place, Slough, the residence of Lord John Hay)

defended his race in the following interesting description of the "tricks" the little dogs so readily perform :

"Now if there is one quality of mind or body for which we have thought ourselves most justly famed it is for our remarkable intelligence. We learn tricks and accomplishments in an hour that dogs of obtuser intellects bungle over for a month. I live with sixteen other Pekin Spaniels in this pretty place that we have selected for our abode ; and here we perform a multitude of gymnastic feats. We also draw carriages at a gallop, or trotting four-in-hand or tandem, with one of us as coachman sitting on the box. We sail on little rafts across our lake, and are photographed from the banks by our numerous admirers. We do all these things out of pure love and a desire to give pleasure to our visitors. It is true that we are occasionally regaled with a piece of plum-cake which, however, is not a bribe, but only a little civility, which we accept in the spirit in which it is given to us. But more than that, lineally descended as we are from the Imperial family of Dogs at Pekin, and true lovers of law and order, we hate depredators on property of all kinds. Not a long time ago we gave warning to our friends here (the business of whose life it is to feed us and make us comfortable) that burglars were attacking the

house, and though they tied up the doors and windows we got through a hole, and, attacking the burglars, drove them away, leaving their ladders and their tools, and their worsted stockings behind them. Now I ask any reasonable being whether it is fair to say that we are 'not intelligent?' We perform all the necessary business of life, without the previous education that bipeds require at a board school to enable them to get along with any success in the world. As regards sporting qualities, we show a good average capacity at a drag hunt, when we have to follow the delightful aroma from a long enough kept rabbit being dragged along the grass."

The following are the points and description of the Japanese spaniel as recently drawn up and issued by its specialist club :

"*Head and neck.*—Head should be large for size of animal, with a very broad skull. The neck should be short and moderately thick.

"*Eyes.*—Eyes should be large, dark, lustrous, rather prominent, and set wide apart.

"*Muzzle.*—Muzzle must be strong and wide, very short from eyes to nose. The upper jaw should look slightly turned up between the eyes. The lower jaw should also be turned up or 'finished' so as to meet it.

"*Nose.*—Very short in the muzzle part, the end or

nose proper should be wide with open nostrils, and should be the colour of the dog's marking, *i.e.*, black in black-marked dogs, and red or deep flesh colour in red or lemon-marked dogs; but a black nose on a red or lemon-marked dog is not a disqualification.

“*Ears.*—Should be small and **V** shaped, set wide apart and high on the head, and carried slightly forward.

“*Body.*—The body should be very compact and squarely built, with a short back, rather wide chest, and of generally ‘cobby’ shape; the body and legs should really go into a square, *i.e.*, the length of the dog should be about its height. The dog should rival the Pug dog in this, and also in its carriage, which should be particularly smart.

“*Legs.*—The bones of the legs should be fine, giving a slender appearance, and they should be well feathered.

“*Feet.*—These should be small and feathered, the tufts should not increase the width of the foot, but only its length.

“*Tail.*—This must be carried in a tight curl over the back; it should be profusely feathered, so as to give the appearance of a beautiful ‘plume’ on the animal's back.

“*Coat.*—The coat ought to be profuse, long, straight, rather silky; it should be absolutely free

from wave or curl, and not lie too flat, but have a tendency to stand out, especially at the neck, so as to give a thick mane or ruff, which, with profuse feathering on thighs and tail, give a very showy appearance.

“*Colour*.—These dogs should be parti-coloured—either black and white, red and white, or lemon and white. The ground colour should be a pure pearly white, and the other colour be in large evenly distributed patches over the body and over the ears and cheeks.

“*Size*.—The size ranges from the tiny sleeve dog of sometimes 1lb. weight to the more ordinary dog of 8lb. to 12lb. Whenever classes are divided by weight, it is desirable to have them over and under 7lb. Smallness of size is a point in a dog’s favour, but should not outweigh other typical qualifications.”

Numerically I should place the scale as follows :

	Value.		Value.
Head and Neck.....	10	Legs .....	5
Eyes .....	10	Feet .....	5
Muzzle .....	5	Tail .....	15
Nose .....	7½	Coat .....	10
Ears .....	7½	Colour and markings...	10
Body .....	5	Size.....	10
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	45		55







ARTHUR WARDLE

## CHAPTER XIV.

### THE MALTESE.

SOMETIMES this charming little dog is called a terrier, on other occasions a spaniel, whilst in many quarters it has been known as the Lion dog of Malta. Sir Edwin Landseer painted it as the latter about 1838, from a specimen stated to be the last of the race. This picture does not appear to be very well known, but as representing a typical Maltese of the present day it must be noticed here. The Maltese "Lion dog" is reclining on a table, upon which a hound is resting its head, the latter no doubt introduced by the great artist to show the diminutiveness of the principal object in the picture, which it undoubtedly does most satisfactorily. The original painting was, I believe, the property of the late Duchess of Kent.

Whatever doubt there may be as to whether the Maltese dog is a terrier or a spaniel (I do not consider it either), there is no question whatever as to its being by far the oldest of our toy dogs, as it is

the rarest at the present time, and, Landseer notwithstanding, the day of the last of the race has not yet been reached. Two thousand years ago and more the dainty creature was nestled in the laps of the ladies of Greece and Rome, where he was said to divide attention with the dandies and bucks of that day, or, as they were then called, "puppies" a name which still clings to them as occasion requires.

Doubtless it was a Maltese dog of which Lucian tells, at the expense of a philosopher friend of his, who had been persuaded to be a "gentleman help of the period," to a certain noble and his lady. On one occasion the family was on a journey to their country residence, when the philosopher, who was travelling in a carriage by himself, was besought by the lady as a great favour to take her poor dear little dog Myrrhina in his lap, as she was unwell, and slaves were so careless and neglectful that they were not fit to be trusted with so dainty a creature. After hesitating a moment, Lucian's friend consented, and forthwith Myrrhina was transferred to his knee, where in a very short time she gave birth to a litter of puppies!

Many early writers have mentioned these little dogs of Malta. Aristotle did, and he died 322 B.C., whilst the elder Callimachus, who was almost his contemporary, likewise alludes to them, and has something

to say as to hounds and dogs generally in his poem to Diana. No doubt those *Canes Melitæi* were pretty much identical with the long-haired, white little dog which is the Maltese of the present day, and that he was of an ancient race even then is evident from the fact that there appears to be some confusion as from whence he came. There are two islands bearing the name of Melita, from either of which this dog may have been originally introduced.

The one island was Melita in the Adriatic, near Dalmatia; the other Melita in the Mediterranean, near Sicily, and the Malta of to-day. Callimachus, already alluded to, and who was undoubtedly an authority on dogs in his day, says the little animal originally came from the Melita in the Adriatic, and the learned Bochart, in his "*Hierozoicon*," quotes him as likely to be right in his statement. Others have said the dog first came from Melita in the Mediterranean, which Island is at the present time generally acknowledged, though I believe wrongly, to be the native country of the Maltese toy dog.

However, the most complete record of the early history of the Maltese dog is to be found in the *Natural History of Ulysses* Aldrovandus, who died in 1607. His great work, written in Latin, was published after his death. He says there are two varieties of this Maltese dog, one of which was

comparatively short in its coat, the other long ; and as he was unable to say which was correct, he gave us illustrations of each. Both are identical, excepting so far as the coat is concerned, that with the longer jacket being pretty much the same dog as we find to-day. The second is the smaller of the two, and, although by no means short-coated, is not so long in the jacket as the other. Aldrovandus quotes pretty freely from other writers, especially as to the origin of this little dog, Blondus ascribing it to Spain, and Gesner to Lyons. However, we must be contented that it came from Malta. In the seventeenth century we are told the best colours were white and red (? fawn), but some were black and white. The smaller they were the better and more valuable they became, although they bore the reputation of being ferocious and ill-natured. The Italians sometimes called them *botoli*, because, though small, they were ferocious and bad-tempered, *botolo* being an old Italian word meaning a quarrelsome little cur, or a worthless, degenerate little dog.

The value of a good specimen of this animal was such that Aldrovandus says he had seen one sold for £400. This was, probably, at Bologna, during our Elizabethan period. But the value of money at that time and in that place is no criterion as to its value in English money at that date or now.



The same author also furnishes us with some interesting little pieces of information as to the breeding and rearing of these diminutive creatures, giving an insight into the arts of the dog fancier of that day, which appeared to be plied with as much care and skill as is the custom at the present time, our Kennel Club notwithstanding.

In the first place it is said that owing to the smallness of the best Maltese dogs, they could with difficulty be induced to breed, and when such was the case they were fed on hot foods. Then the bitches often died during pupping, and care was taken in breeding that only the very tiniest males were used to bigger animals of the opposite sex. A quaint idea was in vogue that when the bitch, in whelp, was allowed to sleep upon and have her bed of a sheep-skin or fleece of wool, the puppies were born with longer coats and manes more lion-like than would have been the case if the bitch's bed was of straw or shavings—*filios jubatos instar leonis*. Thus we have at once the origin of the name the "lion dog of Malta."

Some time after being born, no doubt when commencing to walk or crawl about, they were given as little exercise as possible, being confined in tin canisters or boxes in order to keep them small in size as the fancier required them to be; the best



specimens being said to be no bigger in body than a rat or a weasel. Then the dietary was carefully guarded, they eating little, and that of a particular quality. The favourite food was "liver or lights, dried and sprinkled with the pared fresh bark of the wild fig tree," the drying operation taking place in a warm room provided for the purpose. And it was said that Queens fed the dainty little creatures with the choicest cuts from the breasts of fowls, which were served out of golden vases.

Here is another dainty bit for our modern dog fanciers; old writers say that when the Maltese puppies were born it was the custom to twist the "rostrum" (the upper nose) with the fingers "in order that they may seem more elegant in the sight of men." Surely after this operation—which, for anything we know to the contrary, may have been performed before the Christian era—who can say there is anything new under the sun; and the bulldog men who manipulate the noses and muzzles of their "beauties" are only following on the lines of their brother fanciers who preceded them in more barbarous times.

I think I have written enough to prove that the Maltese dog was a valued canine commodity and companion long before England was a great nation. Since she has become so, this dog may have

improved somewhat, though at the present time I should scarcely know where to place my hand on a perfect specimen. We must have them immaculately white, a fawn mark being a great blemish, and a black mark, I fancy, has not been observed for a long time. Thirty years ago there were more of the variety to be found than is the case to-day. They were difficult to breed three hundred years since, unless special trouble was taken, and this seems to have been in the form of confinement in tin boxes and feeding on unnatural foods. No wonder then that the variety has failed to survive in its pristine excellence, and that to-day the pure Maltese is the rarest of all our pet dogs, and actually on the high road towards total extinction.

The late Mr. Robert Mandeville, of Old Kent Road, London, about 1860 and later, had a celebrated strain of the variety, and so had Mr. W. Macdonald, also of London; then came the Hon. Mrs. Bligh Monk, of Reading; Lady Gifford, of Redhill; and Mr. J. Jacobs, of Oxford, all of whom at one time or another owned the most perfect specimens that have been produced during the present generation. Mr. Mandeville's Fido and Lady Gifford's Hugh were particularly choice in their way, "white as driven snow, coat like floss silk, nose and eyes dark in colour, less than 5lb. weight each, and with not a

dark hair on their bodies." At the early shows the classes given to this variety were far better filled than is the case now when competition usually appears to be restricted to two or three animals. At the Holborn Show in London in 1862 there were twenty Maltese entered, there were forty-one in the same year at Islington, and two years later eighteen of the little dogs were present at Ashburnham Hall. Most of these entries were made by the London fancy, but R. Mandeville was usually at the top, as he continued to be for many years, even so recently as 1870 at the Crystal Palace, when the competition had dwindled to seven competitors. And it appears to have continued to slacken and become less ever since, though at Cruft's Show, held at Islington in 1898, there were ten entries in the open dog class, including three or four very fair little animals.

Mr. J. W. Watts, of Birmingham, five years ago owned perhaps the best dogs of this race, in Prince Lily White and Flossie ; but they did not reach the perfection of such specimens as Hugh and Fido, already mentioned, their coats being neither so good in texture nor so perfectly white as the past champions of their race. The best specimens at the present time are doubtless Mr. J. Jacobs' Pixie, Mrs. Fish's Little Count, the Hon. Mrs. McLaren Morrison's Melita, Mrs. Palmer's Sir Meneris, Miss

Smith's Snowflake, and Mr. John Milner's Prince Lilywhite II.; whilst Mr. A. Langton has some pretty Maltese dogs, but the variety is in few hands.

The unpopularity of the variety must be ascribed to the difficulty in breeding him to perfection, and the trouble which follows to keep the coat in order. The latter requires brush and comb two or three times a day, washing not too often but just often enough, and their jackets are of such a length that it actually ruins them and spoils the dog if exercise is given in dirty weather, or if when out they get caught in a shower. They are just such dainty creatures as the indolent women of the Roman period would cherish and fondle, but are scarcely likely to be popularised in our more matter-of-fact days. They had the reputation of being ferocious and bad tempered. Now such cannot be said of them, though they are somewhat more inclined to be snappish with strangers than are other pet dogs.

The general form, shape, and character of the Maltese dog may be obtained from the illustration preceding this chapter. In weight he should be not more than about 7lb., and a specimen of 5lb. is preferable; colour, all white, with long silky hair, quite unlike that on any other dog, more of the consistency and appearance of "spun glass" than of anything else; it must be straight, quite free from curl, and

the length of hair on a perfectly coated specimen will certainly not be less than seven inches. The nose and eyes must be black. There is usually a redness of the hair under the eyes made so from the eyes watering; the less of this the better, but I am afraid it cannot wholly be avoided. The tail ought to be carried turned or doubled into the coat of the back. The ears should be small and dropping, well clad with hair, and scarcely discernible on a good coated specimen. In disposition the dog should be sprightly; the mouth must be level and the teeth white; nose quite black, though seldom seen now; and a "flesh coloured" nose as well as fawn coloured marks on the ear or elsewhere should be a severe handicap.

I would place the numerical points of the Maltese dog as follows:—

	Value.		Value.
Size.....	15	Tail .....	10
Coat .....	15	Ears .....	5
Colour .....	15	Legs and body .....	10
Colour of eyes .....	10	Symmetry .....	10
Colour of nose .....	10		—
	65		35

*Grand Total, 100.*







## CHAPTER XV.

### THE POMERANIAN.

THIS dog has from time to time been known and recognised under many different names, as the Spitz, Loup-Loup, Pomeranian, Wolf dog, Fox dog, and may be by others. There is little doubt that he more nearly approaches in appearance, and in a certain shyness which occasionally prevails in some specimens, such semi-domestic animals as the dogs of the Arctic regions, including the Samoyedes and the smaller varieties of the Esquimaux, than any other of our European dogs. One of the Samoyedes owned by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales very much resembles a white Pomeranian excepting in coat, which on the first-named is comparatively short as compared with that of the other.

The Pomeranian, or Spitz dog, as it was until quite recently called, was no doubt originally brought from Pomerania, a country which lies on the shores of the Baltic Sea. When he first became acclimatised with us there is nothing to show ; that he has

been one of us for a great number of years there is no doubt whatever.

Among the earliest writers who have described the variety must be noticed the author of the "Sportsman's Cabinet" (1803), who gives the animal a bad character, as he does most other varieties of the canine race that are not used for sporting purposes. Assuredly the Pomeranian is not a sporting dog. The "Sportsman's Cabinet" says: "The dog so called in this country is but little more than 18in. or 20in. in height, and is distinguished by his long, thick, and rather upright coat, forming a most tremendous ruff about the neck, but short and smooth on the head and ears. They are mostly of a pale yellow or cream colour, and lighter on the lower parts. Some are white, some few black, and others, but very rarely, spotted; the head broad towards the neck, and narrowing to the muzzle; ears short, pointed, and erect; nose and eyes mostly black; the tail large and bushy, and invariably curled in a ring upon the back. Instances of smooth or short coated ones are very rarely seen. In England he is much more familiarly known by the name of fox dog, and this may originally have proceeded from his having much affinity to that animal about the head; but by those who in their writings describe him as a native of Pomerania,

he passes under the appellation of the Pomeranian dog.

“ In general opinion as a house dog he is held in but slender estimation, being by nature frivolous, artful, noisy, quarrelsome, cowardly, petulant, deceitful, snappish and dangerous with children, without one prominent property of perfection to recommend him. This breed is common in Holland, and has occasionally been introduced as a hieroglyphic by the caricatured partisans of the House of Orange (in opposition to the pug) to ridicule the patriots in their political disputes. . . . The largest of these dogs are used for draught purposes in different countries, and it may with well-founded reason be presumed that to these or a race somewhat similar may be attributed Took’s account of dogs in his view of the Russian Empire.”

The account in question describes the usual Esquimaux as they are used for drawing sledges, and which have been and still are found so useful by Arctic explorers, and after all there is a great resemblance between the ordinary large sized Pomeranian and the common Esquimaux dog. Not long ago a brown or chocolate coloured Esquimaux was exhibited, which could only be called a gigantic Pomeranian, coat, colour, carriage of stern and

general character being alike indicative of the latter breed.

Until within the past half dozen years or so, the white Pomeranian was the only variety known to any great extent in this country, and this was a purely white dog some 20lb. or so in weight. He did not bear a great reputation for amiability, and his best friends could not say that he was anything more than snappish and particularly ill-tempered with children and with strangers. Some few years ago there was a mad dog scare in New York, and in official quarters the origin was said to be traced to the Spitz dogs, a great many of which were destroyed without any proof being forthcoming either one way or the other. Still, I do not think it was altogether on account of their ill-temper that they have never popularised themselves in this country, but white specimens of excellence were most difficult to produce, especially when accompanied by dark hazel eyes and a perfectly black nose. Fawn or fallow marks on the ears were continually appearing, and red noses were far more common than black ones. Then there was the difficulty in washing and in getting them up for show, in which latter respect white dogs are always more troublesome than coloured ones.

R. D. Blackmore in one of his charming stories

introduces a pretty character in Bardie with her "Pomyoleanian dog," and the novelist must, in so agreeably alluding thereto, have held a better opinion of the Pomeranian than do some people.

Classes have been provided for the variety at early shows, but they were, as a rule, badly filled, and continued to be so until recently. Still, in the first volume of the "Kennel Club Stud Book," they are allowed a classification, and no fewer than forty-three dogs and bitches are entered, a large majority of which have no pedigree whatever, nor is anything said as to their being bred abroad. These early Pomeranians were, I take it, in the hands of private individuals, who took no trouble to keep records of the puppies so far as either sire or dam was concerned. Twenty-five years or so ago, in most cases the Pomeranians had to compete in the variety classes, and perhaps the most notable dog, and the handsomest of his day, was Mr. J. Fawdrey's Charlie; but since then several excellent specimens have been introduced, notably those from the kennels of Miss Cresswell.

A great change has, however, been recently brought about in the Pomeranian so far as this country is concerned; the whites have had their noses put out of joint, their places being more than supplied by the black specimens, and others fawn or



pale red in colour, chocolate or brown, blue or slate coloured, and occasionally these hues are diversified by parti-coloured specimens. I do not believe that all these Pomeranians of different colours recently produced, have sprung from one stock, whatever may have been the case a hundred or more years ago. Most of these charming black, or blue, or red, or chocolate specimens are much smaller than the original whites, 4lb. and 6lb. weight each being not unusual, and moreover these "toys" are not snappish and ill-natured, their temperament and disposition being more what one likes to see in a companionable dog.

Five years ago I wrote that these comparatively new varieties, at any rate new to this country, had a future before them, for they were in enthusiastic hands, and a specialist club had been formed (in 1891) to look after their interests, which is giving particular attention to the smaller varieties. Her Majesty the Queen had a companionable and handsome little fellow, a beautiful red sable called Marco, and the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone's favourite dog was a little black specimen which gloried in the name of Petz. That my words have come true is plainly in evidence, for at all the leading shows to-day Pomeranians are provided with an immense number of classes, which are proportionately filled. At the

1897 show of the Ladies' Kennel Association thirty-eight classes were provided, which obtained over 160 entries, and the entries in the "Stud Book" have increased fully as much in proportion.

This extraordinary increase in the popularity of the variety is easily accounted for by the introduction from Germany and the Continent of the smaller specimens, which are classed as toys. These, mostly black in colour, are much the rage as I write this and a few months ago £250 was paid for a little dog called Black Prince, which had been successfully shown by Mr. C. Houlker. This is a record price for the variety, and although he weighed only 6lb., smaller have been exhibited, and I have seen two or three which would not scale more than 3lb. weight. However, even a moderate specimen, black, or sable, or fawn, or white, of not more than 6lb. in weight, will always command an excessive price. These little dogs appear hardy, and being by no means so difficult to rear as other "lap" dogs, their increase in numbers and in popularity is not surprising. As to the price stated above paid for Black Prince, it may be said it has seldom been exceeded for a toy dog of any description, the most notable exception being when, not long ago, Mr. A. Howard sold his black pug bitch Chotee for £300.

Allusion has been made to Her Majesty's Marco.

Of him Mr. Marples wrote as follows: "Marco may be described as a most typical specimen of his race. In substantiation of this we may point to the fact of his having at the Kennel Club Show, in 1894, the first time he was ever exhibited, carried off not only first prize in his class, but also the gold medal given by the Pomeranian Club. In colour, Marco is a deep red sable, excepting on the tail and hind feathering, which merges into a very pale tint of the same hue, almost white. In build he is proportionate and symmetrical, scaling probably about 12lb. in weight. He has the correct coat, which is both straight and profuse, especially about the neck, where it forms a dense frill or mane. He is heavily feathered about the thighs, and his caudal appendage, which is quite orthodox in its carriage, is covered with a profuse quantity of hair, which, fountain-like, flows over his back. His eyes, in colour, match the colour of the dog's body, and he is bright, sharp, and intelligent looking, with small, erectly carried ears, which appear sensitive to every sound.

"Fortunate in being the recipient of such Royal care and companionship, Marco is a most attractive little fellow, and doubtless deserving of the caresses lovingly bestowed upon him by his Royal mistress."

Her Majesty has, however, other Pomeranians (more or less fawn and white in colour) including

a particularly charming specimen, bred at Windsor, and winner of leading prizes wherever shown, called Fluffie. This beautiful little creature appeared, with several other of Her Majesty's Pomeranians, at Cruft's show in 1892, where they carried away a great number of prizes.

At the present time Miss Hamilton, of Seend, Wiltshire, has a particularly choice and interesting kennel of Pomeranians, including several good whites, some charming blacks, and specimens of other colours, many of which have been bred by her. The diminutive orange and white dog Prince of Orange was especially choice, weighing about  $5\frac{1}{2}$ lb. This exquisite little creature was first shown by Mrs. Gordon Lynn, of Southsea, who at one time possessed an excellent collection of Pomeranians. Miss Hamilton has also König of Roselle, one of the best of the white variety of modern times, a dog over 12lb. weight, and it may be said here that the classification is usually for animals under 8lb., between 8lb. and 12lb., and for others above the latter weight. The divisions as to colours include classes for white, black, brown, or chocolate, and for any other colour.

Mrs. Thomas, of Ealing Dean, has at the present time a valuable and an unique kennel of the variety. Here we find mostly blacks, but with an occasional

blue, chocolate, and fawn or two; her Schatzel, Black Boy, and Queen Bee; Lady Dinah, but  $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb. weight, Little Billee Boy, Kaffir Boy, and Queen Bee being amongst the best. Most of Mrs. Thomas's dogs were originally imported from Germany, and there is considerable risk in so doing, as many of them die before becoming acclimatised, but when once nicely settled down they are healthy and strong, and even may be able to withstand the rigours of our fickle climate as well as do our own toy spaniels and delicate terriers.

Other leading exhibitors and owners of choice specimens are Miss Creswell, Mrs. Hales, Mrs. Crang, Mrs. E. A. Pettitt, Mrs. L. Vallance, Mrs. C. Houlker, Mrs. Rose Bambridge, Mrs. J. B. Birkbeck, Mrs. Hall Walker (whose King Pippin is one of the best of his day), Mrs. Ives, Mrs. Owen Swaffield (who has some charming chocolate specimens), and Miss De Pass (whose chocolate Chipette is a great winner). But there are many pretty little fellows of mostly all colours with us now that weigh from  $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb. to about  $4\frac{1}{2}$ .

The points and description of the Pomeranian, as drawn up by the club, are as follows:

*“Appearance.*—The Pomeranian in build and appearance should be a compact short-coupled dog, well knit in frame. His head and face should be

fox-like, with small erect ears that appear sensible to every sound ; he should exhibit great intelligence in his expression, docility in his disposition, and activity and buoyancy in his deportment.

*"Head.*—Somewhat foxy in outline, or wedge-shaped, the skull being slightly flat (although in the Toy varieties the skull may be rather rounder), large in proportion to the muzzle, which should finish rather fine, and be free from lippiness. The teeth should be level, and on no account undershot. The head in its profile may exhibit a little "stop," which, however, must not be too pronounced, and the hair on head and face must be smooth or short-coated.

*"Eyes.*—Should be medium in size, rather oblique in shape, not set too wide apart, bright and dark in colour, showing great intelligence and docility of temper. In a white dog black rims round the eyes are preferable.

*"Ears.*—Should be small, and carried perfectly erect or pricked, like those of a fox, and, like the head, should be covered with soft short hair. No plucking or trimming is allowable.

*"Nose.*—In black, black and tan, or white dogs the nose should be black ; in other coloured Pomeranians it may more often be brown or liver coloured, but in all cases the nose must be self not parti-coloured, and never white.



*"Neck and Shoulders.*—The neck, if anything, should be rather short, well set in, and lion-like, covered with a profuse mane and frill of long, straight glossy hair, sweeping from the under jaw and covering the whole of the front part of the shoulders and chest as well as flowing on the top part of the shoulders. The shoulders must be tolerably clean and laid well back.

*"Body.*—The back must be short, and the body compact, being well ribbed up and the barrel well rounded. The chest must be fairly deep and not too wide.

*"Legs.*—The forelegs must be perfectly straight, of medium length, not such as would be termed either 'leggy' or 'low on leg,' but in due proportion in length and strength to a well-balanced frame, and the forelegs and thighs must be well feathered, the feet small and compact in shape.

*"Tail.*—The tail is a characteristic of the breed, and should be well twisted right up from the root tightly over the back, or lying flat on the back slightly on either side, and profusely covered with long hair, spreading out and flowing over the back.

*"Coat.*—Properly speaking there should be two coats, an under and over coat, the one a soft fluffy undercoat, and the other a long, perfectly straight and glistening coat, covering the whole of the body,

being very abundant round the neck and fore part of the shoulders and chest, where it should form a frill of long flowing hair, extending over the shoulders as previously described. The hindquarters, like those of the Collie, should be similarly clad with long hair or feathering from the top of the rump to the hocks. The hair on the tail must be, as previously described, profuse and flowing over the back.

*“Colour.*—The following colours are admissible :—White, black, blue, brown, black and tan, fawn, sable, red and parti-colours. The whites must be quite free from lemon or any colour, and the blacks, blues, browns, black and tans, and reds free from white. A few white hairs in any of the self-colours shall not absolutely disqualify, but should carry great weight against a dog. In parti-coloured dogs, the colours should be evenly distributed on the body. Whole coloured dogs with a white foot or feet, leg or legs, are decidedly objectionable and should be discouraged, and cannot compete as whole coloured specimens. In mixed classes, *i.e.*, where whole coloured and parti-coloured Pomeranians compete together the preference should, if in other points they are equal, be given to the whole coloured specimens.

“ N.B —Where classification by weight is made,

the following scale, the most suitable division, should be adopted by Show Committees:—

“ 1. Not exceeding 8lb. (Toys).

“ 2. Exceeding 8lb.

“ Where classification by colour is made, the following should be adopted:—

“ 1. Black.

“ 2. White.

“ 3. Any colour other than White or Black.”

#### SCALE OF POINTS.

	Value.		Value.
Appearance.....	15	Body .....	10
Head .....	5	Legs .....	5
Eyes .....	5	Tail.....	10
Ears.....	5	Coat .....	25
Nose .....	5	Colour .....	10
Neck and shoulders ...	5		—
	40		60

*Grand Total, 100.*





## CHAPTER XVI.

### THE ITALIAN GREYHOUND.

THIS graceful and fragile little creature, with the equally choice Maltese dog, may not survive long in this country. He has never been a particularly great favourite, owing doubtless to his delicate constitution and the great difficulty there has always been to produce perfect specimens of the ordinary English greyhound in miniature, which the so-called Italian variety undoubtedly ought to be, though in proportion the limbs of the latter are more slim, and were never ordained by nature for rougher work than playing on the lawn, or having a romp in the dining-room.

Here is what a writer at the commencement of the century says of what he calls "a diminutive native breed, which seem only calculated to sooth vanity and indulge frivolities: these dogs are so deficient of the spirit, sagacity, fortitude, and self-defence of every other sort of the canine race as not to be able to officiate in the services of domestic



alarm and protection; and in consequence are dedicated only to the comforts of the tea table, the fire-side carpet, the luxurious indulgences of the sofa, and the warm lap of the mistress. As a proof of the delicacy of this little animal, it is averred that if held up by its legs the texture of the skin is so exceedingly fine when interveningly opposed to the sun, or a strong light, that the distinct chain of the intestinal canal is truly perceptible to a nice observer." The fallacy of this must be apparent.

When the Italian greyhound became fashionable in this country there is nothing to tell us, but that it was a favourite at Court in the time of the Stuarts (1603) there is no doubt whatever, though I fancy then it was a bigger and stronger animal than it came to be at the early part of this century. In the picture gallery at Hampton Court there is a portrait of the Queen of James I. in the act of mounting a horse attended by a black servant. In the picture are included several Italian greyhounds, some of them fawn in colour, others blue and blue and white, and they are undoubtedly going to accompany their royal mistress on her equestrian excursion. These dogs, although much of the make and build of the Italian greyhounds of the present day, appear to be somewhat larger, going perhaps up to 16lb. in weight; still they are unmistakably of the same

stamp we have now, and their appearance in the picture is sufficient proof that such dogs were fashionable very early in the seventeenth century, for James came from Scotland to be King of England in 1603.

It has been said that the Italian greyhound was a native of the South of France as well as of the country from which it takes its name. Never particularly numerous in England, it was more so once than is the case now, and when it was utilised to cross with the terrier in the North of England for the purpose of providing dogs for "running races" and for "coursing rabbits," it was not difficult to procure specimens, especially in Lancashire and in parts of the Black Country. Many of these "running dogs" were not more than 12lb. or 14lb. in weight, and I have seen such that must have contained at least three parts Italian greyhound blood. Some of the original crosses produced little dogs scarcely strong enough in the jaws to hold a rabbit, but such could go at a rare pace for from one hundred to a couple of hundred yards. These were again crossed with the terrier, and in due course the variety now acknowledged as the "whippet" was produced. I am alluding to the smaller-sized "whippet," for the larger specimens are undoubtedly the product of the ordinary greyhound and some other variety, bred

continually to the greyhound until little more than greyhound remains. However, the whippet is still known in many localities as an "Italian," which he assuredly is not, although, as I have said, the blood of the fragile race runs in his veins.

At our early shows classes were, as a rule, provided for Italian greyhounds, but even in those days of large entries, not more than a dozen or so appeared on the benches, and these were mostly in the hands of the dealers. The first volume of the "Kennel Club Stud Book," had forty-one entries of Italian greyhounds, the last published, that of 1898, had but a dozen entries. Their delicacy is, of course, the cause of their rarity, and this, I fancy, has been emphasised by the mischievous custom prevalent thirty years or so ago of producing them as small as possible. Mere mites some of them were, not more than 4lb. or 5lb. weight, with legs thinner than the shank of a Broseley straw pipe, skull round or apple-headed, and a mouth or jaw very much overshot. Most of the smallest specimens were so, and even that extraordinary little creature Molly, so successfully shown by the late Mr. W. McDonald, was very much overshot. Still she was one of the choicest specimens ever produced, and, I believe, did not live to be beaten. She was just under 5lb. in weight. But she, like all

others of her race, was very delicate, which no doubt arose from continued in-breeding. Mr. McDonald's Duke was larger, but equally good in other respects, and for a time these two won first and second at all the shows where they competed; this was about twenty to twenty-three years ago.

"Stonehenge" alludes to one dog, Gowan's Billy, the best of his day, about 1857, where grandsire, great grandsire, gg. grandsire, ggg. grandsire, and gggg., were all the same dog. He was a lovely specimen in appearance, but, as would certainly be the case under such circumstances, his stock was delicate in the extreme.

As a rule, the males of the Italian greyhounds do not approach the females in diminutiveness and elegance of form; thus the bitches beat the dogs when they meet, which they usually do in the same class, the entry in which is always so meagre as to preclude the possibility of two divisions being made.

The best classes of Italian greyhounds a dozen or more years ago were, with slight exceptions, to be found at the Scottish shows, where Mr. Bruce, Dundee Court, Falkirk, was accustomed to exhibit some beautiful little dogs, which were certainly in advance of any we had this side of the border, his Wee Flower, Crucifix, Bankside Daisy, and others being

quite celebrities in their way. Mr. Bruce's entries have been missing of late, but in his place Miss H. M. Mackenzie, of New Cross, has come into prominence, and, so far as I can make out, at the present time possesses the finest and most valuable kennel of Italian greyhounds in the country, and appears to be almost invincible in the show ring. Occasionally smaller dogs, as Mrs. Turner's Larkfield Shrimp, Roma, and Prawn, have been placed at the top of the prize list; but the first named, to my mind, always showed unmistakable signs of recent terrier cross. Miss Mackenzie's Juno, Sappho, Como, Dido, Carlo, Hero, Nemo, Mario, and some others are undoubtedly very first-rate specimens, and I am told by their owner that her favourites are quite as strong, hardy, and intelligent as other toy dogs, or even more so; the smallest of Miss Mackenzie's choice little creatures weighs  $5\frac{1}{2}$ lb. This is her beautiful bitch Dido, which, I need hardly say, has won several prizes, and is a grand-daughter of Jack, mentioned later on. The others in this kennel vary from 9lb. to about  $6\frac{1}{2}$ lb. in weight.

In a conversation with Miss Mackenzie, I learned that there are, at the time I write, some dozen or so Italian greyhounds in her kennels, and all are strong and hardy, full of life and play, are never sheeted, and can stand a shower of rain as well as

any other dog. Moreover, they are remarkably free from illness or disease, and no case of distemper has ever occurred in her kennels. The bitches suckle and rear their own puppies from four to six at a time, and are no more trouble than are other dogs on similar occasions. The great difficulty Miss Mackenzie finds is in obtaining fresh blood of the real Italian greyhound, such I mean as does not contain terrier cross however remote. The latter is shown where puppies come black and tan, whilst in the real article, only whole coloured or perhaps fawn and white or red and white young ones are born.

It may be interesting to note that the parent of Miss Mackenzie's kennel was a dog called Jack, purchased in 1879 in Smithfield Market from a labouring man for ten shillings. He was a beautiful dog, about 11lb. in weight, strong, symmetrical, active, thoroughly healthy, and pretty well on to eighteen years of age when he died; he never sired a badly coloured puppy. From the butcher purchaser in the market, Jack went to Miss Mackenzie, with whom he died. Of course there was no pedigree. However, ten years or more after at one of the Birmingham shows, a visitor introduced himself to Miss Mackenzie, admired her tiny dogs which were sired by Jack. Now comes the curious fact of the



matter. The man, who came from the neighbourhood of Rugby, said his late master had, about the time that Jack was purchased, lost a dog in London similar to him in every way. The dog had been his constant companion both in the country and in town, and on the night when he was lost, had slipped out of the carriage whilst a purchase was being made, much to the regret of the master, who quite failed to trace his dog. From certain marks and peculiarities, no doubt the Smithfield ten shilling purchase was the missing animal; indeed, so convinced was Miss Mackenzie that such was the case, that an offer was made to restore the dog to his former owner. Unfortunately, the gentleman in question had then been dead two or three years.

The parents of this dog Jack had both been brought from Italy, his sire being about  $12\frac{1}{2}$  lb. in weight, and said to be so strong and swift as to gain successes as a rabbit courser in Warwickshire.

No doubt the health of Miss Mackenzie's specimens is due to the fact that originally they were bred from big dogs and bitches, and that no attempt has been made to cross them with the delicate diminutive toy terrier. At present the specimens of her strain are growing smaller, but so long as pains are taken to breed from healthy, sound parents, there is no reason to doubt that the Italian

greyhound in such good, careful hands may become fashionable. In a perfect specimen elegance is "caninified," if such a word may be used, and it is to be regretted that there are not more persons who at present take any interest in the variety.

Mrs. Anstice, of 3, Victoria-street, London, also has a kennel of Italian greyhounds of considerable worth and excellence, which, however, she does not show. Mrs. Cottrel Dormer is another admirer of the variety, and her Rousham Hero is perhaps equal to any specimen being shown at the present time, and her Xeta and Dora are almost equally good. However, the best team of Italian greyhounds from one kennel we have seen for a long time was exhibited at the Agricultural Hall in 1898 by Mrs. P. Turner, who had half a dozen entered, including a little blue bitch about 3lb. in weight called Larkfield Blue Gown. None of Mrs. Turner's charming little dogs weighed over 6lb., and so good were they considered by the judge, that they were awarded the champion prize as the best team of toy dogs in the show.

That the Italian greyhound can be appreciated by others not so civilized as ourselves is proved by the statement which recently appeared in the papers, that the Matabele monarch, Lobengula, before he became our enemy, quite fell in love with an Italian greyhound he saw at Johannesburg. For a long

time its owner, Mr. Luscombe Searelle, refused to part with his favourite, but in the end struck a bargain, he receiving two hundred head of cattle for his little dog. The black king was very much pleased with the exchange, which he left in charge of two of his chiefs, with the orders, should any evil happen to the dog, the chiefs' lives would be forfeited. The latter came to pass soon after, as the men fell in battle, but what became of the dog we are not told.

In disposition the Italian greyhound is kindly and affectionate, and in temper equitable. He is little use as a watch dog, nor will he kill vermin; he is just a pet and an ornament and nothing more, though he can do with more exercise than many of the toy spaniels, and from the time he leaves his dam ought to have unlimited run, and be free from confinement. This is the only means by which his unique elegance of form can be obtained and perpetuated. In weight he ought to be not more than 9lb. at the most, the smaller the better, so long as he is strong and robust, and not apple-headed—some modern specimens are the latter to an alarming extent, which to my mind shows a terrier cross, as does a compact, well-ribbed, houndlike body. The Italian greyhound in shape, and in everything else but in colour, should be like an ordinary greyhound,

but throughout much slimmer, less muscular, and more fragile, even taking size into consideration; head, ears, eyes, feet, body, shape, &c., such as are to be found on a miniature Master McGrath or Fullerton. Tulip or erect ears are bad and ugly. Colour, self or whole coloured, fawn in various shades is the most common, black we seldom see, white not more frequently, and, although blue or slate is most acceptable as a hue, it is long since I have seen a good specimen of such a colour. Red I do not care for, and when pronounced in darkness, to my way of thinking, points to an off cross. Dark shadings are undesirable, and a little white on the breast or on the feet, is no more than a slight handicap; I mean that if judged by points, a white or pale chest, a white foot, or even two white feet, where in other respects the colour is good, and the general formation perfect, the dog so marked should have precedence over a dog worse in formation and character, even though such be perfect in colour.

Like all other varieties, the Italian greyhound has a distinctive character of its own, which is strongly displayed in its high and haughty action when walking, trotting, or galloping. Dr. Walsh called this peculiar action "prancing," nor did he describe it otherwise than correctly. The Italian

greyhound proper was never bred from any of our ordinary greyhounds, or even crossed with them, although a lot of nonsense inferring such has been the case, I have seen published. He is as much a variety of the canine race as the St. Bernard, mastiff, and foxhound are of theirs.

I should apportion the points as follows :

	Value.		Value.
Head .....	15	Colour .....	10
Ears and eyes.....	15	Stern or hind quarters	5
Legs, feet, and shoulders	10	Symmetry .....	25
Coat .....	10	Size.....	10
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	50		50

*Grand Total, 100.*

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## CHAPTER XVII.

### THE SCHIPPERKE.

HERE is a quaint little Dutch dog which since its introduction into this country, less than ten years ago, has become one of ourselves, and developed into one of our British dogs as the Italian greyhound and the German boarhound have likewise done. Pronounced "Skipperkee," when at home, he is found in the Dutch canal boats, where with the captain he rules the crew, hence his name. He there acts as a careful watch and guard, will kill rats when required so to do, and generally proves himself to be an engaging little companion.

That he is undoubtedly the latter there can be no doubt whatever; none of our native breeds are livelier or perkier than he; few so lively; and ever on the alert, it is no doubt on this account that he has taken the fancy of such a dog-loving nation as ourselves. The Schipperke ought to be born without a tail, or at any rate with a merely rudimentary stump, but this he seldom is, and when he is pro-

duced with the caudal appendage intact, it is of course cut off, and as the operation is performed skilfully, not even an expert can tell whether he is naturally or artificially tailless. In Holland there is a fawn-coloured variety of the breed, but here nothing but black is acknowledged, though I consider those fawn in hue are by no means displeasing to the eye, and possess quite as much character as the blacks. The latter breed true to colour, and it is very unusual for one of any other hue to be produced from black parents; still, this does occur at times, but such as are "off" colour and have much white about them should be at once destroyed, as they are in most instances. Now and then a perfectly white Schipperke is produced, and quite recently two or three specimens of such have appeared at our shows, the Misses Durrant, of Tunbridge Wells, being their exhibitors.

A friend of mine who keeps several Schipperkes in conjunction with his deerhounds, gives the former a very high character. He says they make "excellent house dogs, being capital guards, ever on the alert and always busy, the latter being one of their prevailing characteristics. As companions they are affectionate and docile, will take the water freely, are good swimmers, and can kill rats and hunt rabbits almost as well as some of our terriers. When

properly kept and attended to, they are absolutely free from any offensive odour. In constitution they are hardy and healthy, and altogether most desirable as house dogs."

This is a good character, but I do not know that it is more than they deserve. Their size—about 12lb.—makes them particularly adaptable as house dogs, and so does their colour, especially in towns, where a white dog requires repeatedly tubbing if it be desired to keep his jacket clean and in good order. Of late there has been a tendency to increase the size of the Schipperke, and on more than one occasion prizes have gone to animals considerably over the stipulated standard. In Belgium two sizes appear to be recognised, the smaller varying from about 9lb. to 12lb., the larger from 12lb. to 20lb. I do not like the big ones at all, and I hope such will never obtain the support of the Schipperke Club in this country. Twelve pounds is quite big enough, and it is such a weight as can be continued and established without losing constitutional strength, bone, and general symmetry. Still, the specialist club in Belgium, which was established in 1888, encourages the two sizes, and at the exhibitions in that country each has a separate classification. An English club to look after the interests of the variety was established in 1890, the Kennel

Club granted an entry in the "Stud Book" three years later ; but in 1894 a second club was formed, called the St. Hubert Schipperke Club. The points and descriptions it adopted are identical with those of the Belgian club.

Not long ago a more or less interesting document appeared in our newspapers with regard to the operation performed in removing the tail of the Schipperke. Mr. W. R. Temple, who had been a great admirer of the breed, wrote as follows : " In the early days of the Schipperke craze there was a fairly well known kennel of this breed ; and in course of time that kennel brought out several dogs bred in England. Whatever other points these dogs possessed, everybody remarked on ' the wonderfully rounded quarters, just like a guinea-pig,' they all had. No matter how pleased the dog might be there was no trace of a stump. Now, being in the secrets of this kennel I am able to tell you how this typical rump was produced. The operation took place at five or eight days old, and was invariably done under ether. A slit was made over the top of the tail where it joins the body, the tail was carved out completely, and some of the muscles on either side were cut away ; two stitches were then put in, some antiseptic dressing applied, and the puppy restored to the bitch. In a few days the stitches

were cut, if the bitch had not already removed them. Out of some thirty puppies treated in this manner, not one died, or, for the matter of that, did any of them appear to suffer any inconvenience whatever, and the only dog of the lot that was ever examined by a veterinary surgeon was passed by him, after a careful examination, as 'having been born without a tail.' "

The above caused no little commotion in the kennel world, and, with what had preceded and followed, led to the Kennel Club being memorialised in the matter, with the result that they decided the tail of the Schipperke might be docked but not altogether removed. Up to this period a majority of people who owned Schipperkes without tails believed that they were born so; but, as already hinted, in a great majority of cases the absent tail was the result of skilful operation. It seems that this little creature is doomed to be a subject for the ingenuity of man; and not very long ago stories appeared in the papers about a prize bred Schipperke which a skilful dentist supplied with a set of artificial teeth.

Perhaps no other variety of foreign dog has so soon been acknowledged by our English dog lovers as the Schipperke. Most of the leading shows now provide classes for him, the club gives challenge and



other special prizes to its members, and already there are many persons who keep quite large kennels, most of the best specimens therein having, however, been purchased on the Continent.

The Schipperke was given a special classification in the Stud Book in 1892, when there were thirty-six entries, in 1897 the numbers had increased to sixty, and the following year, in 1898, fifty-six were so registered.

The following are the points and description of the Schipperke as adopted by the English club :

*"Head.*—Foxy in type, skull should not be round, but broad, and with little stop. The muzzle should be moderate in length, fine but not weak, should be well filled out under the eyes.

*"Nose.*—Black and small.

*"Eyes.*—Dark brown, small, more round than oval and not full ; bright and full of expression.

*"Ears.*—Shape—Of moderate length, not too broad at the base, tapering to a point. Carriage—Stiffly erect, and when in that position, the inside edge to form as near as possible a right angle with the skull, and strong enough not to be bent otherwise than lengthways.

*"Teeth.*—Strong and level.

*"Neck.*—Strong and full, rather short, set broad on the shoulders and stiffly arched.

*"Shoulders.*—Muscular and sloping.

*"Chest.*—Broad and deep in brisket.

*"Back.*—Short, straight, and strong.

*"Loins.*—Powerful, well drawn up from the brisket.

*"Fore legs.*—Perfectly straight, well under the body, with bone in proportion to the body.

*"Hind legs.*—Strong, muscular, hocks well let down.

*"Feet.*—Small, catlike, and standing well on its toes.

*"Nails.*—Black.

*"Hindquarters.*—Fine compared to the foreparts, muscular, and well developed thighs, tailless, rump well-rounded.

*"Coat.*—Black, abundant, dense, and harsh, smooth on the head, ears, and legs, lying close on the back and sides, but erect and thick round the neck, forming a mane and frill, and well feathered on back of thighs.

*"Weight.*—About 12lb.

*"General Appearance.*—A small cobby animal with sharp expression, intensely lively, presenting the appearance of being always on the alert.

*"Disqualifying Points.* — Drop or semi-erect ears.

*"Faults.*—White hairs are objected to, but are not disqualifying."

## STANDARD OF POINTS FOR JUDGING.

	Value.		Value.
Head, nose, eyes, teeth	20	Hind legs .....	5
Ears .....	10	Feet .....	5
Neck, shoulders, chest	10	Hindquarters .....	10
Back, loins .....	5	Coat and colour .....	20
Fore legs .....	5	General appearance ...	10
	<hr/> 50		<hr/> 50

*Grand Total, 100.*

The standard adopted by the Belgian Club is much the same as the above, though the weight allowed therein is from 12lb. to 20lb. The maximum, however, does not seem to be approached in this country. The feathering at the back of the thighs, described as the "culotte," should be curled or turned upwards, and the apparent faults are given as light coloured eyes, semi-erect ears, coat thin, wavy, too long, or too silky in texture, absence of the "mane," which is described as the dense coat round the neck, and absence of the culotte; and being undershot is another great fault. The Belgians allow 30 points for coat and colour, and with this exception the figures are pretty much the same as given by the English Club. However, as I have often previously remarked, judging a dog by points is a farce.





ARTIST'S SKETCH

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### THE CHOW-CHOW.

PERHAPS I may be taken to task for introducing a Chinese dog into a book purporting to deal with British modern varieties. However, the Chow-chow is now common amongst us; he has classes specially provided for him at our leading exhibitions, is acknowledged by the Kennel Club, who, since 1894, have given him a special classification in their "Stud Book," and a club to look after his interests was established the following year. The latter described him and gave him a scale of points, and, in addition, Arthur Wardle shows by his pencil what the dog is like in the flesh as we have him here, but not as he is when made into "meat" and hung up for sale in his native country.

Our Chow-chow—a native of the Celestial empire—is so called because he is used edibly, "chow-chow" being a "pigeon English" expression for food. At home he is common for that purpose, is butchered in the usual fashion, and may be seen any day in



the meat shops in Canton and elsewhere ; and the flesh looks very nice and dainty too. As a fact, the Chinese do not give their dogs animal food as we give ours, feeding them entirely on rice, grain, and milk. They believe that the flesh of the dog possesses unusual medicinal properties, but what these properties are we barbarians here have yet to learn, and one of our friends who partook of dog's flesh during the siege of Paris said it had a very unpleasant flavour as of castor oil. We must not, however, forget that the Parisian dog had not been treated in the way the Chinese treat their edible canines. Alongside these carcasses of dogs may be seen the four paws of poor pussy, which, suitably cooked, are considered a great delicacy, and evidently as much esteemed by the Chinese as pigs' feet are by the English and the natives of other countries. It is strange somewhat that whilst only the paws of the cat are eaten, the whole of our friend the dog is converted into food. The flesh of the cat, when suitably cooked and spiced, is said to be far better eating than that of the dog.

The restaurants in Canton and in other large centres mostly provide dog soup, which is extremely rich and nutritious ; other savoury stews and ragouts are concocted from his flesh, and I am told that such are by no means unpleasant, and form in

a great measure the usual food of the middle classes.

Mr. W. K. Taunton, who is one of the great authorities in this country on foreign dogs, kindly forwards me the following notes :

“ In China are found several different breeds of dogs, many of which bear a very close resemblance and are probably identical with some of the breeds of other countries. As an instance, there can be little doubt the hairless dog of China is the same as the Mexican hairless dog, and the crested dogs bear a striking likeness to the dogs which have lately been exhibited and described as African sand dogs. There are also small spaniels which, though differing in type from our present toy spaniels, are in all probability distantly related to them.

“ The variety of Chinese dog which is best known in Great Britain is the one most commonly to be met in its native country. This is the edible dog, sometimes described as the wolf dog, but better known here as the Chow-chow. He is undoubtedly a very old breed, in many respects resembling the Esquimaux and the dogs of the Arctic regions, especially in the carriage of tail, ears, and general expression. Scientists would find it an interesting inquiry to determine whether the Chinese dogs are

bred from the canine race of the Arctic regions and Northern Europe or *vice versa*.

“Many of these dogs have a very keen scent, and in the north of China, where they are of a somewhat larger size than elsewhere, they are used in packs for hunting purposes.

“The orthodox colours of the Chow-chow are jet black and dark red. I have, however, seen many good specimens of a lighter colour, and at one time I owned a black and tan dog which was an exceptionally typical specimen. Whether this colour was the result of crossing the black and red I do not know, but as I have been frequently asked my experience of breeding the colours together, I may say here that I have found the puppies come either a distinct black or red.

“A writer in the *Field* some time ago said that white specimens were not uncommon, and he described these Chow-chows as useless excepting as guard or watch dogs, and said they were great cowards. It may be interesting to mention that some years since a well-known breeder and judge of Scottish terriers, residing in Scotland, was good enough to tell me of a pair of puppies which had just arrived by vessel, and were supposed to be Esquimaux. “I decided to buy them,” continues Mr. Taunton, “but I saw they were crossed with something, and

on examining their mouths was satisfied there was Chinese blood in them. These puppies were a very light fawn. When old enough I mated the bitch with a black dog of my own. In due course she presented me with five puppies, all jet black; but my disappointment was great on finding that not one of them possessed the special feature of the breed—a black, or rather blue-black, tongue. My first impulse was to destroy the litter, but fortunately I did not adopt this course, as in a short time I observed small black spots, which gradually increased till the tongue became the correct colour. This, however, is not always the case, and in many instances an otherwise good dog is useless for show purposes through the tongue remaining red, as at the time of birth, or only turning partially black. It will be evident from this that anyone attempting to produce these dogs should endeavour to retain the dark tongue so peculiar to their breed, a peculiarity which I believe would quickly be lost without care in breeding. Other qualities which should be aimed at are a broad forehead, nose rather broader than the Esquimaux, small erect ears, carried well forward, small black eyes, a thick coat, coarser than the Pomeranian, small round feet, the tail curled over the back, and straight hocks.

"The Chow-chow is a very companionable dog, and shows great affection for his owner, though many of them have a will of their own, and are more quarrelsome with other dogs than many other of the foreign races. It is frequently thought that these and other foreign dogs require special feeding and treatment, but I have never found it so, and mine are fed the same as my mastiffs and bloodhounds. In China, where the natives eat these dogs, they are fed largely on rice.

"There is a short-coated variety of the Chow-chow, but in this the nose appears to be more pointed, but is not actually so, the appearance arising from the fact that the shorter coated dog with less hair about his head and neck seems to be larger in head than is actually the case. The coat resembles the under coat of the Esquimaux. Chow-chows live to a good age, and are hardy dogs, but many are carried off by distemper, from which they appear to suffer more severely than our native British breeds."

From the inquiries I have made elsewhere, and from my own experience, I can endorse all that Mr. Taunton has said of the variety. Both the black and the red Chow-chows, when in full coat, are very handsome animals, in this respect comparing favourably with our native varieties—the collie, for instance.

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They have, however, a somewhat wild-looking appearance, and their resemblance to the quasi-domesticated dogs of the Arctic regions is somewhat against their popularity. A few years ago the mate of a trading vessel, with whom I was acquainted, brought home with him from Pekin a very handsome specimen of the Chow-chow, a black one with a lovely tail and a coat like deep pile velvet. In those days I kept more dogs than I do now, and approached the sailor with the view of purchasing the importation. He would, however, not consent to part with his favourite, for which he had formed a great attachment, for he said "there never was a more faithful dog than he." On the very first day of landing in Liverpool, the mate, sailor-like, went into the town to enjoy himself, as only sea-faring men can do after a lengthened absence from home. The dog, however, got tired of the public-houses, and slipped away. His owner was almost disconsolate at its loss. However, on returning to the vessel next day, the Chow-chow was the first to greet him as he stepped on deck, having found its way from the centre of the busy seaport along the docks, and to his own vessel, where he had remained until his master returned. Of course, on hearing this, I was more anxious than ever to secure the dog, but on making further application was informed it had been



poisoned for biting a little child, who was trying to pull its tail out of curl.

Since the above was written, I have been told, by one who has kept the variety for many years, that this faculty for finding their way about is common to the Chows. The same gentleman also tells me that they are fond of hunting anything from "a sheep to a mouse;" that when brought up from puppies and treated as companions, the Chows are faithfulness itself, but when tied up and confined may, like other dogs, or more so, develop evil habits. As watch dogs they are quite a success.

Perhaps here it might be well to mention that, as a rule, these foreign dogs, Chinese and Esquimaux, require no special feeding. They do well on the same food as our own, and Mr. Taunton tells me that he gives his cooked paunches and stale bread. They are, however, like the dogs from the Arctic regions, indeed, like all dogs, very fond of fish, and in some cases it is wise to give them some occasionally.

Since the Chow-chow Club has got into working order its special variety of dog seems to have increased in public estimation, and obtained quite a fair share of popularity. So far this has not wrought much change in his appearance, but certain colours or shades of colour have been introduced, one

supposes, to give variety to the breed. The colours originally known to us were black and red, though Mr. Taunton has told us of a black and tan, and white specimens have been heard of. Now we have so-called "blues," which seem to be a bad slate colour or a more or less washed out black; and there are so-called "creams" or yellows, which are more a pale fawn, or a very bad faded red, than anything else. And another manufactured, or wrongly produced, or irregular, colour, black tinged or mixed up brown, called "bronze," is being cultivated and encouraged by the specialist club, though it is not alluded to as such in its description any more than are the "creams." Still, at the most recent show of the Chow Club, which took place at Westminster, in December, 1898, leading prizes went to so-called "cream" and "bronze" coloured specimens.

A friend of mine bred these cream-coloured or yellow puppies from red parents, and he found that breeding generally from red or black or fawn parents, puppies of any colour or shade of colour might be produced. At present only whole coloured are recognised by the Club, but some of these which win prizes are more or less patchy, and many of them are much paler in colour in their hind quarters than elsewhere. At a recent show

where the Chow-chow classes formed a very important item, a champion prize was awarded to one of the so-called blue dogs, he being placed over several admirable black and red specimens. This caused considerable surprise, and an admirer of the breed stated that in China the "blue" dog is not considered worthy of cultivation, and holds the same position as a black Newfoundland does in this country when tinged with brown. As a fact, the bright, richly red colour, which, at one time comparatively common and always attractive, is becoming rarer and rarer, and very few really first class red specimens are now to be found. There are, as already stated, only these red and black colours acknowledged and valued in China, and the richer and deeper in hue the better. This is not only my opinion, but that of others, including one who resided in Canton for eighteen years, and had bred numbers of Chow-chows. He says that the "so-called 'blue' colour when it does appear is only a freak, and contends that animals of that shade and 'cream-coloured' are only produced because the deep, dark, velvety black and the rich red are disappearing, and the latter, the original colours, require encouragement, and not the pale and faded shades."

It may be mentioned that until quite recently

puppies two or three months old, and either red or black in colour, could be purchased in the market at Hong Kong for about 3*s.* 6*d.* of our money, and sailors were not averse to bringing one or two over, which they could easily dispose of at a profit. However, now that dogs have to be quarantined on their arrival in this country from a foreign station, the importation of Chows will not be so large as it has been. Doubtless there are plenty with us to sustain the breed without any risk of its degenerating, unless fanciers, as they show an inclination to do, neglect the original colours in favour of novelties.

The few shillings for which, in some instances, a Chow puppy could be bought in his native country is no criterion of his value here, for not very long ago the well known and excellent red specimen Chow VIII., a red dog, was sold by Mrs. Faber, a great admirer of the breed, for £100, and the same lady, a few days later, paid to Mr. Sprengel £50 for his red bitch Carrots. Both these animals excel in brightness of colour; indeed, the last named gentleman has been particularly successful in having bitches which produced very richly coloured puppies. There are at the present time quite a host of admirers and exhibitors of Chow-chows, foremost of whom must come Mr. W. R. Temple, until lately the secretary of the club, and to whose energy has been due a

couple of shows confined to Chow-chows and other foreign dogs. Lady Granville Gordon owns some fine dogs, her Blue Blood, irrespective of colour, being one of the best; and another noteworthy "blue" is Leyswood Blue Bell, bred by Mr. Temple. Mrs. Burgess, Miss Casella, Mrs. Woodcock, Mrs. Janvrin Dickson, Miss Salter, Mr. R. Sprengel, Mr. C. O'Dowd, Miss S. Hayward, Mrs. Garnett-Botfield, Miss A. Gordon, Mr. A. P. King, Miss E. J. Hunt, and others own good specimens. But the best kennel of Chow-chows ever got together is that belonging to Mrs. J. V. Faber, of Shotley Bridge, Durham, where many of the very best specimens of the day are to be seen, including Chow VIII., Singapore Boy, and others almost equally good.

The club's description of the Chow-chow is as follows :

"*Head*.—Skull flat and broad, with little stop, well filled out under the eyes.

"*Muzzle*.—Moderate in length, and broad from the eyes to the point (not pointed at the end like a fox).

"*Nose*.—Black, large, and wide. (In cream or light coloured specimens a pink nose is allowable.)

"*Tongue*.—Black.

"*Eyes*.—Dark and small. (In a blue dog light colour is permissible.)

“ *Ears.*—Small, pointed, and carried stiffly erect. They should be placed well forward over the eyes, which gives the dog the peculiar characteristic expression of the breed—viz., a sort of scowl.

“ *Teeth.*—Strong and level.

“ *Neck.*—Strong, full, set well on the shoulders, and slightly arched.

“ *Shoulders.*—Muscular and sloping.

“ *Chest.*—Broad and deep.

“ *Back.*—Short, straight, and strong.

“ *Loins.*—Powerful.

“ *Tail.*—Curled tightly over the back.

“ *Forelegs.*—Perfectly straight, of moderate length, and with great bone.

“ *Hindlegs.*—Same as forelegs, muscular and with hocks well let down.

“ *Feet.*—Small, round, and cat-like, standing well on the toes.

“ *Coat.*—Abundant, dense, straight, and rather coarse in texture, with a soft woolly undercoat.

“ *Colour.*—Whole-coloured black, red, yellow, blue, white, &c., not in patches (the under part of tail and back of thighs frequently of a lighter colour).

“ *General appearance.*—A lively, compact, short coupled dog, well-knit in frame, with tail curled well over the back.



“*Disqualifying Points.*—Drop ears, red tongue, tail not curled over back, white spots on coat, and red nose, except in yellow or white specimens.”

N.B.—Smooth Chows are governed by the same scale of points, except that the coat is smooth.

A Chow-chow is from 40lb. to about 55lb. in weight, and his numerical points may be given as follows :—

	Value.		Value.
Head and expression...	15	Back and forelegs.....	10
Stern or tail .....	15	Hind legs and loin ...	10
Coat .....	15	Mouth .....	10
Colour .....	10	General character .....	15
	—		—
	55		45

*Grand Total, 100.*





## CHAPTER XIX.

### SOME OTHER VARIETIES.

IN addition to the varieties of the dog already described, and which are sufficiently common to us as to be fairly entitled to recognition as British dogs, there are sundry other breeds from foreign countries occasionally seen at our shows, and which might be shortly alluded to here. Take the Pekinese spaniels, for example, which sometimes have special classes provided for them.

Such specimens as I have seen appear to have the characteristics of the pug blended with those of the spaniel, and in appearance they are lower on the legs, thicker set in body, and generally "cobbier" in build than the Japanese. In colour the Pekinese are usually fawn—or, rather, sable and white—sometimes black, occasionally white; their tails curl over their backs, their coats are long and harsh rather than silky in texture, and generally they do not display the aristocratic bearing of other toy spaniels. The most valued colour of the variety is, however, a bright

chesnut, and of this hue were a pair originally brought to this country by Sir George Fitzroy after the sacking of the Summer Palace at Pekin. Considerable pains have been taken by Lady Algernon Gordon-Lennox to perpetuate this colour, but great difficulty has hitherto prevailed in importing suitable animals with which to cross the originals. Thus the few that remain are very much in-bred, and so are delicate, shy, and uncertain mothers. In weight they range from 6lb. to, say, 10lb., and the bright colour said to be one of their distinctive features is not at its best until the animal is fully matured.

The description of the Pekinese spaniel, as issued by a small club which looks after the interests of the variety, is as follows, but I think an omission is made when the deep red or mahogany colour is not included, and black and black and white should certainly not be so valued as the other hues to which attention has been drawn.

*"Head.*—The head should be large, very broad, wide between the eyes, muzzle deep, broad and square, lower jaw not turned up like a Japanese spaniel; eyes large, dark and lustrous, very prominent, and set wide apart; ears covered with long hair.

*"Body.*—Body should be very heavy in front, falling away light behind, as in a bulldog, low on

the leg, and as short in body as is consistent with light hind quarters.

“*Legs.*—The legs should be heavy, with as much bone as possible, well out at elbow (*sic*), and feathered.

“*Feet.*—The feet should be long and flat, and covered with long hair, which should increase their length, but not their breadth.

“*Tail.*—The tail must be carried in a curl over the back, as in a Japanese spaniel, and should be profusely feathered, so as to give it the appearance of a ‘plume’ over the animal’s back.

“*Coat.*—The mane (which is a very important point) should be very profuse, giving a lion-like appearance; the coat, like that of a collie, double—a long, straight outer coat, and a dense, thick under one.

“*Colour.*—Black, black and tan, brindle, fawn and chocolate. In the brindles and fawns a black mask is to be desired.

“*Size.*—A Pekinese may be any size, but the small ones are to be desired.”

Then there are the Siamese spaniels, which resemble, if they are not actually identical with, the Pekinese.

Of other foreign toy dogs there are the Brussels Griffons, which, considerably more of a terrier than anything else in appearance, are dealt with in the



volume of *Modern Dogs of Great Britain and Ireland* given over to that race. Count de Bylandt, the leading Continental authority on the variety, says the Belgian Griffon contains toy spaniel, toy bulldog, pug, stable griffon, and affenpinscher blood, and has been an acknowledged breed for fifteen years.

The Chihuahua dogs from Mexico are another of the rarer varieties, which, owing to their delicacy, are never likely to develop into a British favourite. Most of the few I have seen, seem very susceptible to our variable climate, and sit shivering in their pens, when at dog shows, looking extremely unhappy. In colour they should be fawn or fawn and white. Some have comparatively short coats, whilst others are coated more or less after the fashion of our toy spaniels. (The latter type is the better one, and so is portrayed in the sketch which precedes this chapter. The original, a lovely little creature, weighs only  $4\frac{1}{4}$  lb.) Their eyes are large and languishing, the shape of their heads something between a toy terrier and a toy spaniel, their distinguishing feature being the erect ears, which are very large and well feathered, standing out like the wings of a butterfly, as in the illustration. From this they are known as "butterfly" dogs.

However, the following information as to these little animals, written by persons who have resided or

are still residing in Mexico, will be found not without interest, though the opinions of the three different writers are not altogether in unison.

“Chihuahua dogs are bred exactly the same as any other pet dog, and through in-and-in breeding and by selection of the smallest, they have been got down to their present size. However, the smallest bitches are liable to throw big pups, and nearly always do have one or more in their litter; the very diminutive ones are of course preserved, the big ones are given away to servants or anyone who wants them. I tried to keep a small standard, but the progeny got larger except the dwarf of each litter. A peculiar feature of the breed is that many have complete double sets of teeth, some are underhung; and all without exception that have any pretension to blue blood have the toe nails (of the fore feet especially) so long that they curl round and require cutting regularly. [This is no doubt owing to the want of exercise.] The eyes are prominent, and the coats strong, any colour.”

Another correspondent, who for many years resided in Mexico, says “the Chihuahua dogs are very valuable, and much sought after by tourists, who often gave 200 or 300 dols. for one. Whether the animals now sold as ‘Chihuahuas’ are true descendants of the original breed is doubtful. The

tourists being almost more numerous than dogs of the true strain, a fine opportunity for swindling arose, of which the Mexicans duly availed themselves, by passing off a spurious article. As you stop at a Mexican station, a dozen little dogs may be held up for sale, their owners commencing with a demand for 50 dols., and very likely coming down to 1 dol. For the last few years any puppy of a small breed, happening to be unusually diminutive, has been passed off as a 'Chihuahua.' The Mexicans, to keep them small, feed sparingly, never give meat, and dose them daily with mascal (native gin). Quite young animals are sold to innocent tourists as mature dogs. A depression in the skull, which was a distinctive feature in the original breed, is now artificially produced by continued pressure on one spot, which often renders the little animal an idiot. They are very small, sometimes not more than 16 ounces in weight. They have very prominent eyes, a fine tail, rather long and pointed ears, long nails, not dissimilar to a cat's claws, and a coat like that of a fox terrier, but as soft as silk. The colour most sought after is fawn, with often a white chest and collar. One of the true breed is never black. Their bark is an ordinary one. They are interesting and affectionate little creatures, but exceedingly delicate, requiring to be nursed and coddled even in a hot

country. The high price which a good specimen will bring makes them difficult to keep, as the Mexicans are expert dog thieves."

Perhaps, however, the following communication from a resident in Chihuahua is the most comprehensive: He says "there are three characteristic breeds of small dogs in that state, but only one is the true Chihuahua dog. (1) The "raza fina," the true Chihuahua, which is very small, has smooth hair, different colours except black (which is off colour), fine nose, large prominent eyes, slender feet with long thin claws, and a curious small round depression in the skull, between the ears, which is the distinguishing characteristic of the breed, and not produced artificially as suggested by one correspondent. (2) The "mulato," which bears a close resemblance to the Maltese terrier—white, long, fine woolly coat with hair over the eyes. (3) The chino or pelon, a most outlandish and repulsive looking little brute, with not a vestige of down or hair on its blue-grey (or sometimes purplish) skin, excepting a few stiff bristles standing up over the eyebrows and on the ears, which only serve to accentuate the perfect bareness of the skin, which in the true breed shows a strange finely wrinkled appearance. [This is undoubtedly the Mexican crested or hairless dog alluded to later on.]

"It is very difficult to get a true Chihuahua dog (the first kind), the owners of the best breeds being very jealous of them, and preferring to kill the puppies they do not want for themselves or their friends to selling them. I may mention a curious idea or belief regarding the chino dog (or pelon, as it is commonly called); that is, that it is a cure for rheumatism, if allowed to sleep in the bed of the person so afflicted. The "fino" and the "mulato" make capital little pet dogs, but if there is any place in the civilised country appropriate to the pelon, I should say it would be the Zoological Gardens."

A peculiar looking object, and one which requires a great stretch of imagination to call handsome, is the hairless, or, rather, the crested dog, which appears to have a wide range extending from China to Mexico and Africa. He is mostly known as the Mexican hairless dog, and as such is not uncommon in America, less numerous here, where he is also known under the names of the African sand dog and as the hairless Chinese dog. So far as I can make out the whole of these names are given to one variety.

Those from Mexico are oftenest met with at our own shows, and the Misses de Pinta, Mr. W. K. Taunton, Mr. Temple, and Mr. H. C. Brooke have

from time to time owned specimens which have attracted a considerable amount of attention when placed before the public. Varying in weight from, say, 12lb. to about 20lb., they are built somewhat after the fashion of our black and tan terrier, but rounder in body, shorter in the head, weaker in the jaw, and not nearly so flat in skull as the terriers. Their eyes are full and somewhat terrier-like, lacking smartness, and generally rather wanting in expression. The distinguishing feature is their skin, which is devoid of hair of any kind, consequently harder to the touch and to the appearance than the ordinary skin of the dog. Moreover, the skin of these Mexican dogs, in many cases, has a peculiarly wrinkled appearance. A crest, which varies in size, of stiff hairs is on the top of the head, and sometimes there are a few hard hairs forming a tuft at the end of the tail, and a few on the eye-brows. The prevailing colours are slaty blue and reddish brown or chocolate, but sometimes they are more or less spotted with blue on a pale red or fawn coloured ground. Their tails are fine, and their ears large and erect, but a capital idea is conveyed of what one of these Mexican dogs is like can be obtained from the drawing preceding this chapter.

These strange creatures are said to be affectionate and nice companions, and some of them, if trained



to do so, and given the opportunity, will kill rats, and even fight with other dogs. I am told that they reproduce fairly true to one type, but are by no means good breeders, and, as before hinted, they are more of a novelty than an ornament.

Those skilled in canine matters need scarcely be reminded here that occasionally the black and tan or Manchester terriers are produced pretty well free from hair on their bodies, and some writers have endeavoured to introduce to the public as a distinct variety a creature they called a "Blue Paul." This, we believe, had its birth in Scotland, but was only a coarse bull-terrier, which Nature, for once negligent, had allowed to come into the world with a skin more like that of a Berkshire pig than of a respectable member of the canine race.

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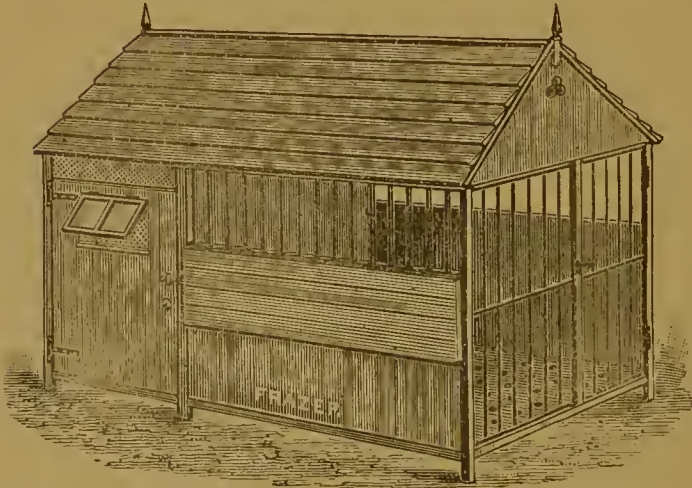
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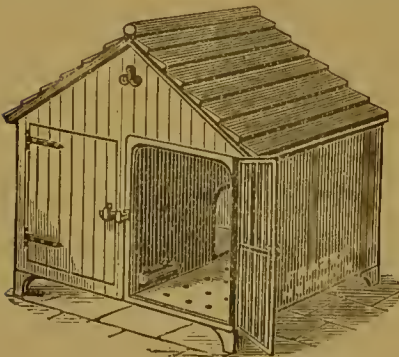
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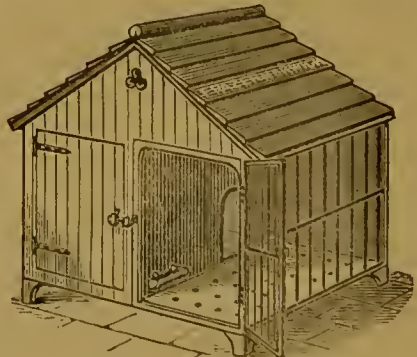
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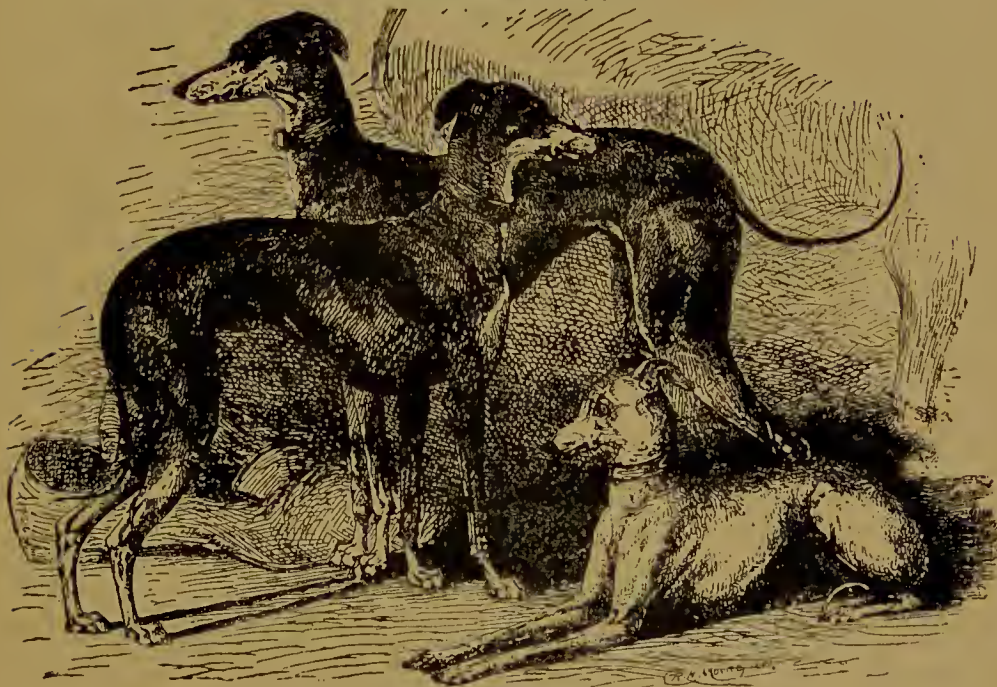
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